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# *History of Floyd County, Iowa*

Inter-state Publishing Company (Chicago, Ill.), W. P. Gaylord, Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago



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of  
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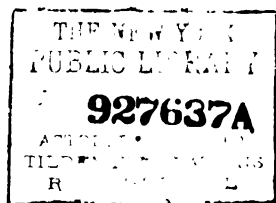
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## CHAPTER XII.

### EDUCATIONAL.

Probably no county in the West has paid more attention to the education of children and youth than that of Floyd, and probably no newspaper in the State of Iowa has taken a deeper interest in educational matters than the *Charles City Intelligencer*. Mr. Hildreth, for the first fourteen years of its existence its editor, was for six years also a member of the State Board of Education, a body having legislative powers, and existing from 1858 to 1864. We are obliged to notice here some of the prominent measures introduced in that Legislature by this worthy representative of Floyd County, which were adopted and which remain on the statute books to-day.

In December, 1858, a bill was introduced before the State Board "for the government and regulation of the State University of Iowa." On the 23d, Mr Hildreth offered the following amendment to give equal advantage to either sex:

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa, that the object of the State University of Iowa, established by the Constitution at Iowa City, shall be to provide the best and most efficient means of imparting to the youth of the State, of both sexes, a thorough education, and a perfect knowledge of the different branches of literature, the arts and sciences, with their various applications.

Mr. Hildreth is also the author of the following law: "That the Bible shall not be excluded from any school or institution in this State, under control of the board; nor shall any pupil be required to read it contrary to the wishes of his parent or guardian."

The establishment of the State Board of Education was an effort toward eliminating partisan politics from the educational interests of the State; but as it failed of this object, and as two co-ordinate legislatures within one commonwealth were liable to conflict, it was desirable to abolish the educational body as a needless expense. Accordingly, in 1864, Mr. Hildreth introduced a bill in the General Assembly "to abolish the State Board of Education, and to

provide for the election of a superintendent of public instruction." The bill was passed in the House by seventy-nine yeas to seven nays.

Previous to 1864 the school fund was loaned by the county supervisors, who took real-estate securities, called "school-fund mortgages." The stringency of the times caused by the panic of 1858, and the succeeding war of the great Rebellion, occasioned the debtors, and consequently the Board of Supervisors, to be considerably behindhand with the collection and proper disbursement of these school moneys, the law all the while remaining that these moneys should be kept intact. In many counties of the State the arrearages were considerable. In this stage of affairs, Mr. Hildreth, in the General Assembly of 1864, introduced "a bill for an act to provide for the loan of the permanent school fund, and fixing the rate of interest thereon, and limiting the price at which school lands may be sold, and for other purposes." This bill required the supervisors to collect these moneys loaned, by foreclosing the mortgages, if necessary. When the subject came up for discussion, Charles Paulk, of Allamakee County, led off in opposition to the bill. The fact was, from \$12,000 to \$20,000 were loaned out in his county, a large portion of which was a dead loss. Other members of the House then followed Paulk in the opposition, and, on a vote, refused to pass the bill. The fact was developed that more than half the members of the Assembly were debtors to the school fund. They passed a substitute, in regard to the rate of interest. Mr. Hildreth followed this substitute into the Senate, and had three of the most important sections of his bill incorporated in it as it passed that body. Being chairman of the standing committee on schools and the State University, Mr. H. let the matter lie quiet until near the close of the session, waiting for a favorable opportunity to call it up in the House. Accordingly one evening, when the members felt humorous and got parliamentary matters into some confusion, Mr. Hildreth hinted the matter to the Speaker, who was favorable to the bill and who promised to aid in its passage; and in due time the bill was called up, when, without debate and scarcely any one knowing what he was voting on, the bill was passed, by sixty-eight yeas to four nays!

Mr. Hildreth was also instrumental in getting Webster's Unabridged Dictionary supplied to all the schools of the State by law.

Many other men, and some women, have also been prominently identified with the progress and advancement of public schools,

and their names appear mostly in the respective township and city histories.

The County Superintendents of Floyd County, as near as can be ascertained, have been as follows:

J. C. Whitney, four years; Hervey Wilbur, two years; Horace Stearns, two years; H. O. Pratt, two years; J. W. Merrill, two years; Mrs. Helen R. Duncan, four years; G. H. Nichols, four years; H. H. Davidson, the present incumbent.

#### SCHOOL PROGRESS IN FLOYD COUNTY.

The winter of 1858 a new school law was passed, providing a complete system of free public schools from the primary all the way up to, and including, the State University and which was wholly substituted for the old system. To reap its advantages required considerable special study; and of course many stumbled under it before they could walk perfectly. This law was expounded by school officers and educators, until the machinery got to moving well throughout the country. Meetings were held of township school presidents, where they instructed one another. One such meeting was held in Cheney & Brackett's Hall, Charles City, Oct. 6, 1858.

Like all the West, the first schools of Floyd County were of course small, and were kept in log school-houses, poorly furnished. The first school in the county was taught at Nora Springs in 1854, the second was opened at Charles City, the third at Floyd, and so on. Twelve years from that time the number of schools was fifty-four; children of school age—males 1,305, females 1,132; number attending schools, 1,786; number of teachers—males seventeen, females eighty-one; average compensation of teachers—males \$6.-88, females \$5.11, per week; aggregate amount paid teachers for the year, \$8,415.70; number of school-houses, forty-two, of which twenty-three were frame, nine stone, nine log and one brick; total value of school-houses, \$28,516; amount appropriated for building and furnishing school-houses the last school year, \$10,737.48; value of school-houses in the several townships, as follows: Cedar, \$200; Floyd, \$750; Niles, \$1,400; Riverton, \$1,930; Rock Grove, \$3,425; Rockford, \$1,281; Scott, \$400; Union, \$2,550; Ulster, \$980; St. Charles, \$15,100; Floyd, independent, \$500.

In September, 1875, there were 100 school-houses in Floyd County, 118 teachers, 102 schools and 4,917 children entitled to the public fund. The school-houses were thus distributed: St.



Charles sixteen, Floyd eight, Ulster seven, Rockford eight, Union ten, Pleasant Grove eight, Rock Grove eight, Scott six, Niles eight, Riverton ten, Rudd five, and Cedar six. Number of graded schools, five,—one each at Charles City, Floyd, Nora Springs, Rockford, and Marble Rock,—the five villages of the county. At these schools were taught all the branches preliminary to a collegiate education.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS OF 1880.

The number of districts in Floyd County.....	11
The number of independent districts in Floyd County.....	14
The number of sub-districts in Floyd County.....	97
The number of ungraded schools in Floyd County.....	106
The number of rooms in graded schools in Floyd County....	28
Average duration of schools in months.....	7.9
Number of male teachers engaged.....	48
Number of female teachers engaged.....	162
Average monthly compensation of males.....	\$31 89
Average monthly compensation of females.....	24 65
Number of male pupils between the ages of five and twenty-one years.....	2,644
Average of female pupils between the ages of five and twenty-one years.....	2,488
Average of pupils enrolled in public schools.....	4,336
Total average attendance.....	2,487
Average cost of tuition per month per pupil.....	1 49
Number of school-houses, frame.....	102
Number of school-houses, brick.....	3
Number of school-houses, stone.....	10
Number of school-houses, log.....	10
Total valuation of school-houses.....	\$ 105 310
Value of apparatus.....	1 566
Number of volumes in libraries.....	50

## SCHOOL-HOUSE FUND.

	DEBIT.
On hand at last report.....	\$ 626 04
Received from district tax.....	2 045 97
Received from other sources.....	1 509 30
Total debit and credit.....	4 181 31
	CREDIT.
Paid for school-houses and sites.....	\$2 194 56
Paid for libraries and apparatus.....	50 00
Paid for bonds and interest.....	424 46
Paid for other purposes.....	1 013 87
On hand.....	498 42

## EXAMINATION.

	MALES.	FEMALES.
Professional certificates.....	3	2
First grade.....	5	35
Second grade.....	22	154
Third grade.....		
Total number issued.....	30	191

## OF TEACHERS.

	MALES.	FEMALES.
Applicants rejected.....		
Applicants examined.....	30	191
Certificates revoked.....		
Average of applicants....	23 0	23 0
No experience in teaching.....		
Taught less than one year.....		
Holding State certificates.....		

## VISITATION OF SCHOOLS, APPEALS, ETC.

Schools visited by county superintendent...	70
Visits made during the year.....	70
Educational meetings held.....	22

## CONTINGENT FUND.

	DEBIT.
On hand at last report.....	\$ 5,148 32
Received from district tax.....	9,644 40
Received from other sources.....	638 10
Total debit.....	\$15,430 82

	CREDIT.
Paid for rent and repairs of school-houses.....	\$ 3,303 91
Paid for fuel.....	3,498 11
Paid secretaries and treasurers.....	662 80
Paid for records, dictionaries and apparatus.....	150 42
Paid for insurance and janitors.....	831 88
Paid for supplies, brooms, chalk, etc.....	1,111 91
Paid for other purposes.....	1,093 95
On hand.....	4,777 84

## TEACHERS' FUND.

	DEBIT.
On hand at last report.....	\$15,527 93
Received from district tax.....	21,014 89
Received from semi-annual apportionment.....	5,763 19
Received from other sources.....	559 06
Total debit.....	<u>\$42,861 07</u>
	CREDIT.
Paid teachers since last report.....	\$29,291 23
Paid for other purposes.....	233 88
On hand.....	13,335 95
Cases decided by the county superintendent....	None
Compensation for official services from Oct. 1, 1880, to Oct. 1, 1881, of county superintendent....	929 00
Number of private schools.....	1
Teachers employed in private schools.....	1
Pupils in attendance in private schools.....	52

## TEACHERS' NORMAL INSTITUTE.

The Teachers' Normal Institute, for Floyd County, holden at Charles City each August, commenced August 15, and continued three weeks. There were 30 males and 134 females, making a total attendance of 164.

## THE FINANCIAL CONDITION.

	RECEIPTS.
On hand at last report.....	\$340 11
Examination fees.....	221 00
Registration fees.....	164 00
State appropriation.....	50 00
Sundries.....	.....
Total receipts.....	<u>\$775 11</u>
	EXPENDITURES.
Instruction.....	\$460 00
Incidentals.....	89 20
Unexpended.....	225 91
Total expenditures.....	<u>\$775 11</u>

The teachers and lecturers were :

J. C. Yocum, Conductor ; Instructors, H. H. Davidson, Hossfeld, Miss M. C. Dixon, Miss Harbin, Miss E. Knapp ; lecturers, C. W. von Coelln, S. P. Heland, J. Piper.

The graded schools of the county are in the following towns, all of a nine months' session :

Charles City has one male teacher and thirteen female teachers; Floyd, one female teacher; Marble Rock, one male, three female teachers; Nora Springs, two female teachers; Rockford, one male, two female teachers; Rudd, one female teacher.

#### TEACHERS' INSTITUTES AND NORMALS.

During the latter part of the winter of 1859-'60, an educational convention was called to meet in St. Charles City, February 4, to examine and discuss the new school law just adopted by the State Board of Education, to organize a county teachers' society, to memorialize the General Assembly for an appropriation of money for the support of teachers' institutes, and to awaken a greater interest in educational matters generally. The call was signed by Hervey Wilbur, Floyd ; Isaac Teeple, Union ; J. C. Whitney, Rockford ; A. W. French, St. Charles ; Fayette Richmond, Cedar ; J. Henry Eaton, Cedar ; John H. Aylsworth, L. T. Patterson and Charles Wheat, St. Charles.

At the appointed time a good number were in attendance and exhibited a high degree of enthusiasm. The meeting was called to order by Mr. French, and A. B. F. Hildreth was elected Chairman, and Mr. French, Secretary. A committee of three, appointed for the purpose, reported subjects for discussion and action; namely, the formation of a teachers' association or an educational society, teachers' institutes, and union or graded schools. The result of their deliberations was the organization of the "Floyd County Educational Society," to admit all other friends of education as well as teachers. A preamble and constitution were adopted, and the following officers were elected : A. B. F. Hildreth, President; Maxwell Ireland, Vice-President ; Asa W. French, Secretary ; Hervey Wilbur, Treasurer ; and Messrs. Wilbur, French and J. C. Whitney, Business Committee.

On motion of Mr. Wilbur, the following resolution was adopted: "That a petition to the General Assembly be forwarded to our Representative, Hon. E. G. Bowdoin, asking an appropriation of money to be made which will enable the teachers of this county to hold an institute some time during next summer or fall." Mr. Hildreth was appointed the committee to draft and report a form of petition, which duty he performed.

On motion of Mr. Aylsworth, a resolution was adopted requesting the county superintendent to give at least one lecture in each township on the subject of common schools and also an explanation of the new school law, as soon as he should find it convenient after the law had been acted upon by the General Assembly.

A resolution was also adopted heartily indorsing the late amendment made by the State Board to the school law.

Among those who took part in the discussions were Dr. Cortright, of Rockford, B. F. Cheney and Messrs. Hildreth, Wilbur, Aylsworth and Ireland.

Adjourned to meet Feb. 25, following.

The next meeting, however, did not take place until April 5, at Floyd, where it was called to order by the secretary, and Rev. Thomas Thompson was chosen Chairman, *pro tem*. Resolutions were discussed and adopted, recommending the *Iowa School Journal*, urging uniformity in the text-books as recommended by the State Board, and insisting that the township boards establish graded or union schools in all sub-districts where the situation and number of scholars would justify it. An animated discussion took place upon the last resolution, in which Messrs. Aylsworth, Wilbur, Teeple, Raymond, French, Thompson and Cook participated, although the resolution was at the last unanimously adopted.

Mr. Wilbur stated that the position he occupied in relation to educational matters had been changed since the last meeting, he having been appointed County Superintendent of Schools, and that though the law limited his duties to the office, he proposed to make at least one visit in each township. In conclusion, Mr. W. moved that as the ladies had not assisted in speaking, they be requested to sing. The ladies responded, with the assistance of Mr. Bissell, by singing "Unity," whereupon the meeting adjourned.

May 3, following, Mr. Wilbur, by notice in the *Intelligencer*, called for correspondence from teachers desiring to attend an insti-

tute, saying that if not more than thirty desired it they had better join Mitchell County in the undertaking, and giving notice that the State would bear the expense of normal instruction at the institute. He also interpreted the new law as requiring the sub-district to meet the first Monday in May, instead of the second Monday in July as before, to levy a tax for school-house purposes. In the *Intelligencer* of June 14, this indefatigable school superintendent kept the blaze increasing by publishing a list of the teachers in the county, with the hope that they would all attend an institute in this county, and announcing that the session would continue six days, the teachers themselves to select their instructors and the place and time of holding the institute. By the 27th of August the Superintendent was enabled to announce that a sufficient number of teachers had promised to attend, and that the institute would be held at Floyd, the first week of October, Mitchell County teachers to join.

Monday, Oct. 1, arrived; the Floyd County Teachers' Institute commenced its first session at Floyd according to arrangement. It was called to order by the county superintendent, and J. H. Aylsworth was made President *pro tem.* Permanent officers were elected, as follows: Hervey Wilbur, President; J. C. Whitney and J. H. Aylsworth, Secretaries; J. H. Aylsworth, S. P. Bissell and J. C. Whitney, Financial Committee; J. D. Rust, Chaplain.

Instruction was given during the week by Mr. Wilbur, on Education and its Influences; by Asa W. French, on the Qualifications, Difficulties and Influence of Teachers; by John G. Patterson, on the General Duties of Teachers; by Prof. Wm. Brush, of Upper Iowa University, on the True Teachers; by Hon. Oran Faville, on the Study of the Languages; by Rev. Mr. Paxton, of Osage, on the Origin and Destiny of the English Language. A splendid poem, on The Teacher's Mission, was composed and read by J. Cheston Whitney, of Rockford, and subsequently printed in the *Intelligencer*.

At this institute there were sixty-one persons in attendance, thirty-eight ladies and twenty-three gentlemen,—and the session was exceedingly interesting and profitable.

A successful teachers' institute was held at Charles City, commencing Sept. 30, 1861, and continuing a week; thirty ladies and twenty-eight gentlemen were in attendance. Instructors: Dr. J. L.

Enos, of Cedar Rapids, and Hervey Wilbur, of Floyd; Lecturers: Dr. Enos, Rev. J. E. McClelland, Hon. E. G. Bowdine, of Rockford; and James Jackson, of Charles City. The last named delivered a lecture on Architecture. J. Cheston Whitney, County Superintendent, and President of the Institute.

March 17, to April 7, 1862, a "normal school" was successfully conducted at Charles City, by J. C. Whitney. Fifty were in attendance, and much interest was manifested, notwithstanding the war. Mr. Whitney was an efficient institute leader, as was also Mr. Wilbur. The former left this county in 1865, to edit a paper at Hampton, Franklin County, and the latter is still a resident in Floyd. In 1863 another successful institute was held in the county, and indeed every year to the present time. Sometimes they were held at one village, sometimes at another. In 1866 one was held in Charles City, Oct. 15 to 20, inclusive, conducted by Hon. G. J. Tisdale, of Chickasaw County. Over fifty pupils, all young ladies except four or five, were in attendance. Horace Stearns, the County Superintendent, did much to render the session an interesting and profitable one. Oct. 27, 1870, the teachers attending an institute at Floyd, made arrangements for organizing a "teachers' association" for the county. Feb. 18, following, they held their first regular meeting. They exchanged views on all educational topics and thus practiced mutual instruction. A common evil of teachers' "institutes" in early days in the West, was that of meeting without a programme and amusing one another by their wit. This cannot be asserted of the institutes which have been held in Floyd County. Here they have always had zealous and competent instructors, so that no time has been wasted. In 1874 the Board of Supervisors appropriated \$175 for the benefit of a normal institute to be held in the county during that summer. Since then the Floyd County "Normals" have been self-sustaining aside from the State appropriation of \$50; and have been held annually with an average attendance of about 160 teachers.

#### EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.

About 1873 the Shell Rock Valley Educational Association was formed on the west side of the county; and in 1876, when Mr. J. C. Yocum took charge of the Charles City schools, he issued a call for a meeting to form a similar organization on the east side of the county. Mr. Yocum's communication to the educational public was followed by others, and soon a meeting was called for Nov. 25,

at the school-house in Charles City. At this meeting an organization was effected, and the first regular meeting was held in Charles City on Dec. 16, of the same year.

Feb. 16, of the following year, the first union meeting of the east and west side associations was held at Charles City. Up to the present time (1882) both of these educational associations have maintained a vigorous existence with monthly meetings from October to May of each year; and the two meet in joint session once each year at some convenient point in the county.





## CHAPTER XIII.

### LITERARY.

As Floyd County is blessed with considerable literary talent, we make a chapter of selections, which will doubtless be highly appreciated by those who are acquainted with the parties, and even by strangers. And as good prose deserves as much credit as good poetry, we give two or three short selections of that species of literature, as illustrative of Floyd County talent,—not that they are the best that can be produced in the county, but as good compositions already published in the press.

MRS. PERSIS A. BROWN.

This poetess, who has written over the *nom de plume* of "Ruth," "Ruth Rustic," "Ruth Holmes," etc., is a resident of Ulster Township, Floyd County, Iowa, and was born in Halden, Worcester County, Massachusetts, Sept. 8, 1807. She received a common-school education when young, which, together with her constant habit of reading, enabled her to successfully engage in school teaching which avocation she pursued some four or five years in Hampshire County. August 29, 1832, in the village of Speedsville, Tompkins County, New York, she and Mr. Edward T. Brown, were united in marriage. This union was blessed with five children. The first died on the day of her birth. The second died at the age of twenty months, of inflammation of the brain caused by a fall. Eugene, the third, is still living; the fourth was shot through the lungs at the battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862, and died April 10, 1862, at the age of twenty years and two months. He sleeps at Fort Henry, Tennessee. The fifth was drowned; aged nearly four years. She sleeps at North Becket, Massachusetts. The family, including an adopted daughter two years of age, left Massachusetts Oct. 7, 1853; resided in Geneva and Batavia, Illinois, several years. In 1855 they arrived in what is now Charles City, though in that day scarcely worthy of the name of a village. Since that time they have resided in St. Charles Township, and now are residents of Ulster Township.

(588)

Aug. 29, 1882, they celebrated their golden wedding, on which occasion Mrs. Brown contributed the following gem:

Fifty years of married life  
Have fallen to my share;  
Fifty years of toil and strife,  
Happiness blent with care.

What hath not these fifty years  
Known of sorrow, joy and tears—  
Births and deaths, fearful, even,  
All hopes wrecked, save those of Heaven.

This half century of years  
Bears a record damp with tears;  
War, starvation, prison-bars,  
Cursed deeds and endless jars.

Retribution will ere long  
Sift the good, adjust the wrong,  
Bless the righteous, lift the just  
'Bove the rubbish, mire and dust.

Still I linger, still I wait,  
Watching, till the summons come;  
May no drowsiness o'ertake,  
Ere I'm bidden, "Child, come home."

The scenes that called forth the following poem transpired long years since in Massachusetts. Mrs. Brown perhaps is not alone in such trials. We dare say many who will read these lines can testify to their appropriateness in their own cases:

I had a little son,  
A son just *three years* old;  
His face was lily pale,  
His hands as marble cold.  
I knelt beside the sleeping thing.  
He faintly whispered "*Sing, ma, sing.*"

But how could I attune—  
My heart all crushed and sad—  
My voice to melody,  
And bid mine eye look glad.  
Poor, vain attempt. I could but try  
To sing his dying *lullaby*.

Long weary years have sped  
Since that eventful day;  
Still lives that seeming dead  
Now absent, far away.  
The battle-field, the fife, the drum,  
Give forth the strains around him sung.

Oh, what a world is this,  
 So fraught with hopes and fears!  
 Events at every step  
 Requiring smiles and tears.  
 Constrained to sing when least inclined,  
 To sing or weep, howe'er ill-timed.

The thousand nameless ills  
 Which cluster in our path,  
 Adown life's varied track,  
 Some useful lesson hath.  
 This life is long, and ends not here;  
 We want a higher, holier sphere.

In the month of March, 1863, Mrs. Brown was so unfortunate as to have her house and its entire contents consumed by fire. She was at that time alone and a cripple, which made her loss a still greater calamity. In this fire she lost a trunk which was filled with keepsakes, relics, and all her early literary productions. By request of some friends she produced the following, which explains itself:

I had a huge trunk all battered and worn,  
 Some fifty years old or more;  
 Of relics, mementoes, and unique things,  
 It held a curious store.

There were letters and books, pen-holders and wax,  
 That came from the scene of the war;  
 A jack-knife, a dirk, an old, mouldy shoe,  
 That had traveled o'er lands afar.

Little strings of beads, a thimble and comb,  
 And many a trinket and toy;  
 Many locks of hair, silver spoons and cards,  
 And the ball that killed my boy!

There were needles and pins, a tin plate and cup,  
 There were hard tack and cartridges, too,  
 A teacup, a pitcher, the till of a chest;  
 That was many years ago.

A worsted satchel, a small vas: mat,  
 Each wrought by a mother's hand;  
 A tiny blue dress, a collar and chain,  
 That need not a magic wand

To tell as plaintively sweet  
 As ever a novelist told;  
 A whet stone, a hair brush, a china vase,  
 Of value more than gold;

A soldier's companion, a scarf, book and key,  
 An album and poems sweet;  
 A small white basket, some Southern fruit leaves,  
 I think my list complete.

A. B. F. HILDRETH.

The author of the following, is well known to the people of Floyd County. A biographical sketch is given of him in Chapter XIV:

"I SHALL REST TO-NIGHT."

BY A. B. F. HILDRETH.

A morning flower plucked for heaven was the writer's little daughter of six summers, who lately passed from this to a better world, there to bloom forever in the paradise of God. While upon her dying couch, and shortly before her departure, she besought her wearied and grief-stricken parents to take repose, saying—"I shall rest to-night." At midnight, Nov. 29, 1957, she closed her eyes as if in a calm slumber, and in a few minutes was indeed "at rest."

"I shall rest to-night." Another day,  
While my loved flowers\* in breezes dance,  
You'll take me from this *home* away!

A mournful train will then advance  
Up through the long and silent street,  
To bear me to my lone retreat.

Oh, there—it matters not—will rave  
The storms and blasts of wintry weather,  
Above the narrow new-made grave,  
Where death and I lie down together!  
Enough that *I* shall know it not,  
Within that lone and narrow spot.

For I shall sleep. As sweet a sleep  
As ever blessed a child reposing,  
Awaits me in the grave so deep.  
When I, my weary eyelids closing,  
At length shall lay me down to rest,  
Heedless of clods above my breast.

Asleep! How deep will be the "rest,"  
Free from life's turmoil moving wildly,  
That when is passed the earth's unrest,  
Its bosom shall receive me mildly;  
For not one dream of earth may come  
To break the slumber of that home!

Oh, deep repose! Oh, slumber blest!  
Oh, night of peace! no storm, no sorrow,  
No heavy stirring in that "rest,"  
To meet another weary morrow!  
I shall heed neither night nor dawn,  
But still with folded arms sleep on!

"Weep not, dear parents," more for me,  
But live as all true Christians should  
"I'm not afraid to die," you see;  
"You'll come to me, if you are good;"†  
Ere long we'll meet, forever blest,  
Beyond the skies in endless "rest."

\*She was passionately fond of flowers. †Her dying words.

## FLORENCE PERCY.

This is the *nom de plume* of Elizabeth (*nee* Chase) Allen, the author of "Rock Me to Sleep, Mother." Her compositions were neat and beautiful. A further notice is given of her in the next chapter, in the account of the *Intelligencer*.

## J. CHESTON WHITNEY,

well known as a former County Superintendent of Schools, many years ago contributed the following:

## THE COUNTIES OF IOWA.

Our home is in Iowa,  
Westward toward the setting sun,  
Just between two mighty rivers,  
Where the flowing waters run;  
It has towns and it has cities,  
It has many noble streams,  
It has ninety-nine counties,  
And we'll join to sing their names.

Lyon, Osceola, Dickinson,  
Where the Spirit Lake we see;  
Emmet, Kossuth, Winnebago,  
Worth, with its Lake Albert Lea;  
Mitchell, Howard, Winneshiek,  
And Allamakee so fine,  
Make eleven northern counties  
On the Minnesota line.

Clayton, Dubuque, Jackson, Clinton,  
Together with Scott and Muscatine,  
Lee, Louisa and Des Moines,  
On the eastern line is seen;  
Van Buren, Davis, Appanoose,  
Decatur, Ringgold, Wayne we spy;  
Taylor, Page and Fremont, that  
On Missouri's border lie.

Pottawattamie, Harrison, Mills,  
Monona, Woodbury, Plymouth, Sioux,  
Are all the counties that around  
The border of our State we view.  
Next we point you to O'Brien,  
Palo Alto too, and Clay,  
Hancock, Cerro Gordo, Floyd,  
Now see Chickasaw, I pray.

Fayette, Bremer, Butler, Franklin,  
 Next upon the map we see;  
 Wright and Humboldt, Pocahontas,  
 Buena Vista, Cherokee,  
 Ida, Sac, Calhoun and Webster,  
 Hamilton, with names so rare;  
 Next is Hardin, Grundy, Black Hawk,  
 And Buchanan, Delaware.

Jones, Linn, Benton, Tama, Marshall,  
 Story, Crawford, Carroll, Boone,  
 (Let us not your patience weary,  
 We shall have them all told soon,)  
 Cedar, Greene, Johnson, Iowa,  
 With Powesheik by the same;  
 Here is Jasper, Polk and Dallas,  
 Names of Presidential fame.

Guthrie, Audubon and Shelby,  
 Cass and Madison, Adair,  
 Warren, Marion and Mahaska,  
 And Keokuk, too, is there:  
 Henry, Jefferson and Wapello,  
 Monroe, Washington we missed;  
 Lucas, Clarke, Union, Adams.  
 And Montgomery fills the list.

ELIZABETH J. COLE

In early days contributed more poetry to the *Charles City Intelligencer* than any other person. We make only one selection.

#### COMING HOME.

I'm coming home at last, mother,  
 Home to your arms once more;  
 Methinks their fond embrace, mother,  
 Would soothe me as of yore.

The way seems long and dark, mother,  
 My heart is yearning so;  
 I long for one caress, mother,  
 The kiss of long ago.

I would not pain your heart, mother,  
 But you'll know it bye and bye—  
 Your boy is coming home, mother,  
 Yes, coming home to die.

I've longed to breathe the air, mother,  
 Of my dear mountain home;  
 And feel its balmy breeze, mother,  
 Among my tresses roam.

Could I cool my parching lips, mother,  
 And lave my burning brow  
 With a draught from the old well, mother,  
 It would be blissful now.

But I'm coming to you now, mother—  
 You'll not be waiting long—  
 But not as when I left, mother,  
 Vigorous, blithe and strong.

Can it be night so soon, mother?  
 'Tis, oh, so dark and cold!  
 Within your loving arms, mother,  
 Your dying child enfold.

Prairie Glen, Feb. 28, 1864.

“ IANTHE ”

Contributed a great deal to the press many years ago, both poetry and prose. We give one short selection :

“ MATERNAL AFFECTION.

“How vast its import! How deep its fountain! How lasting its duration! What weariness is not endured! What untiring effort is put forth when naught but the alleviation of suffering is reasonably expected!

“When all hope has fled, and the pale, emaciated little one has become a lifeless form, so unlike what it was in health as scarcely to be recognized, with what tenacity and affection the mother's heart clings to it still! Its little fragile form is laid upon the table, clad in the drapery of the grave, yet unceasingly does the mother weep by its side. Its tiny hands are gently folded, its silvery, clustering curls are sweetly parted again and again, to produce, if possible, some trace or resemblance of its former life and beauty; but the spirit has departed, and inanimate clay is all that remains. 'Tis buried, and the grave closes over that cherished, beautiful object. Oh, the sadness and desolation that now take possession of that mother's heart! How carefully is collected and preserved each toy and garment formerly used and worn, as memento of 'the loved and lost!' But how unavailing! Nothing fills that vacancy in that mother's heart; the steel hath entered, and the wound remains. Time may produce some change; it may indeed check the heart's bleeding; but how easily it gushes forth again like some long pent-up current. Grace affords the best remedy for the sorrows of this life, and yet what

mother ever possessed so much of that heavenly virtue as to become insensible to the woe or weal of her offspring. But no less severely is her affection tested, when the child upon whom she had rested all her future hopes, deserts her entirely, disregarding alike her necessities and entreaties; becomes familiar with scenes of vice and infamy; yet, if detected in the commission of crime, how long her heart seeks to believe him innocent, and if convicted, how readily she forgives and also ardently prays her God to forgive him, even if it be the last act of her life! Oh, if there be aught in our natures uncontaminated by sin, surely it is this: A mother's love."

W. P. GAYLORD.

We present here a specimen of Mr. Gaylord's descriptive powers.

THE SENIOR EDITOR'S EXPERIENCE—*Babes in the Hood—How it goes to raise a family, and how a family goes after being raised.*

We are not so much worried over what will become of our children when we are gone, as we are in knowing what will become of us when our children are here. They are little nuisances and big nuisances, according to their age and size, and yet we don't know how we could keep house without them. Their infernal noise is often provoking, but we have heard so much of it that we begin to like it. We could not smoke, nor read, nor write, nor sleep without it.

When we were shown our first baby, and were informed that it looked just like its father, we thought it was about the cutest thing we ever saw; but after a little observation and inquiry we found that almost everybody else had the same opinion of their baby that we had of ours, and the older we grew and the more babies we had, the more we found out that the mother of *our* babies thought a great deal more of them than anybody else did. Women with their children used to come to our house, visiting, and would say *our* children were "smart and good looking," but I noticed that all such women paused for a reply, and were tickled amazingly when my wife would return the compliment by saying the same thing about *their* children. We have some knowledge of camphor, castor oil, soothing syrup, paregoric, laudanum and catnip. We know something about jumping up in the night, striking our head against the door-casing, peeling our shins against the stove hearth, stumbling over chairs and smashing lamp chimneys



to reach the match box. We like the interesting time when the measles, mumps, whooping cough and prairie itch are around; it makes things lively.

We like the experience of that hour between daylight and sunrise, when, snoring at the rate of ten knots an hour, one of the little "images of its dad" has crawled over its mother from the back side of the bed, and whacks its hand right into my face, punches its fingers up my nose, pulls my hair, gives my lips a gouge, and tries to play with my ears,—all of which was as good as an alarm bell, and just about as regular. I like to see them coming down stairs in the morning, some their clothes half on, some with clothes in hand, some bare-handed, bare-headed and bare-footed, with their hair frizzled over their heads like the mane of a wild mustang, and hear them sing out "Mother, where is my stockings?" "Mother, where is my shoes?" "Mother, where is my garter?" "Mother, where is my apron?" "Mother, where is my comb?" "Mother, where is the wash-basin?" "Mother where is the towel?" "Mother, I ain't agoin' to school to-day."

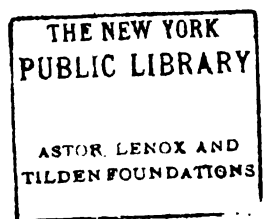
And now comes rattling down stairs like a four-horse wagon, Young America,—the only one we have got (and we are not yet sure whether we have got him or he has got us); but, like a good many other boys, he stays with us over night and runs wild through the day. He, too, has to dress himself in the kitchen; his stockings are always wet, his boots are always run over and shrunken, his trowsers always torn, and, just like his father, he never knows where to find his hat. Sometimes I have a notion to lick him, and we suppose he sometimes has a notion to lick us; but, if we behave ourselves decently well, we are inclined to think he will let us board with him till he is twenty-one.

The family menagerie is an interesting show. There is some fun, and much music and money, in bringing up a family of ten, twenty, thirty or forty children.

When breakfast is ready, the children are never ready for it. They are always hungry enough, and willing enough to come forward and eat, but between them and the table is that great gulf, the wash-basin, so that those who would come up with unwashed hands and faces as black as the ace of spades, can not. Then it is interesting to see three or four of them washing around the same basin at the same time, some washing the inside of their hands, some the outside, some wetting one side of their face, some the



*W. J. Levene*



other, and some neither side, and all using the water with as much economy as though it were the only water in America.

Then comes the stampede for the towel. One seizes at each end, another the middle; one twitches one way, another in another direction, and another sags down in the middle, while all go weaving to and fro like a willow hedge in a thunder-storm, and each trying to wear off with the towel what they ought to have washed off with the water. Then up to the 'glass' they come, and of course all want the same comb at the same time. One, with tears in its eyes, is trying to straighten out its tangled hair, which was welded together the day before with gum and molasses. Another is waiting for the comb, mad because it can't have it, while another is squalling because it is obliged to use it.

Around the table they come, one whining because it "hain't got the right knife and fork," another taking exception to its plate, while all are asking for something at the same time, and each as mad as a hornet because the other has the biggest piece, and at the same time sniffing just enough to get another unwanted slice from its indulgent mother. Then it is fun to see the little two-year old get mad, just because she can't have all that is on the table; refusing to eat because she can't have her cake and pie and nick-nacks first; then to see her try to have revenge on her mother by throwing her fork or spoon under the table, just to show her indignation and to see her mother pick it up,—which her mother always does, to gratify the 'poor little thing,' who returns her affection by throwing it down again in such a provoking manner as to bring a loving mother's cuffing hand in red hot contact with her little ears. Then comes the squall of bloody murder; then comes the crawling down from the high chair position; then the creeping under the table, where she flops herself face downward to the floor, just to show her mother that her majesty is insulted, and that she has rights which her mother is bound to respect; and there she lies, mad as a wet hen, kicking and floundering if she is noticed, and still more terribly mad if she is unnoticed.

While this interesting scene has been going on, the other children, who are older grown, have taken advantage of the confusion and have it all their own way. They have upset the coffee-cups all over the table-cloth; the pies, the cake and the nick-nacks, have gone the way of all the earth, and the sugar-bowl stands there as a monument of what it once contained. And all this has been go-

ing on right under the eye of their father, who has neither seen the sights nor heard the sounds.

It takes a veteran mother to whitewash and rig up a family of fifteen or twenty children for school. One wants to wear her "red frock," another her "white apron," another her "best gaiters," and all would like to wear their best hats, with feathers fluttering in profusion. When these things are denied them, their wrath is red-hot, and "'tis music in the sinner's ears" to hear them howl. One declares she won't go to school to-day, if she can't have clothes like other children. Another says that all the other girls wear better shoes to school than she has for Sunday; another insists that there is not another hat in the whole school as homely as hers; while another declares that she don't see why her father can't get nice things as well as Smith, and Brown, and Jones. Another is bound not to go to school because she "hain't got no books;" another, because the other children made fun of her; another, because "the teacher ain't good for nothing;" another, because some one has been exposed to the measles or the itch; and another because she is sick, when the fact is, if she were allowed to rig up in her best clothes, she would be well in less than five minutes.

After a great tribulation, and a brief discussion, in which the switch is used for an argument, a compromise is made with their mother, by the terms of which they agree to go to school on the conditions following, to wit: 1. That each one is to have a handful of white sugar before he or she starts. 2. That some day they shall have as good clothes as other children. 3. That they shall have a new set of books the first time their father goes to town. 4. That their mother shall put up for their dinners about twice as much as they really want. 5. That their dinners shall consist of cakes and pies, and pies and cakes, with a little more cake, and a little more pie. 6. That they may come home at recess in the afternoon, and especially if they get sick. 7. That they needn't go to school the next day unless they're a mind to. 8. That if they go to school to-day, they may go to the nigger show to-night. 9. That when they get a little bigger they shall have an organ. 10. That their mother shall stay at home and that they may go to the next "Free Methodist camp-meeting." 11. That when they get to be "young women" they needn't mind their father—unless he "gets his dander up." 12. That if the teacher don't behave himself, they may quit the school altogether.

They have started off to school, and their mother strikes up,

"O land of rest, for thee I sigh!"

We are glad to get rid of their noise. The mother says the teacher is paid for his work, and he may as well have a little botheration with them as to throw it all off on her. None are left at home except the baby—and here she comes, bare-headed and bare-footed, yelling, back to the house, because the older children, whom she has tried to follow off, have driven her back. But a handful of sugar, a doll-baby, and her father's razor to play with, soon takes the pout out of her, and the business of the day begins.

The first exercise is to whack her two hands into her mother's dough; then comes the knitting needles out of her mother's knitting; now off goes the head from the doll-baby; then the wheelbarrow and hand-sled come into the house; now the contents of the trunks of the older children are inspected from top to bottom; then she tries to whittle a top out of a spool with her father's razor; and now the old cat and kittens have to be suspended by their tails till their patience is worn out, when they wheel on her and scratch themselves out of her clutches, and another shower of yells is set up, which are quieted with another handful of sugar, and a complimentary rag is tied upon the wounded finger.

These interesting scenes are interspersed with a thousand and one questions, among which is, who made her? and when she is answered, that the Lord made all things, her inquisitiveness is excited and she wants to know who made the Lord; and her mother, tired of answering her questions, tells her to "dry up."

And so it goes all through the day, till here they come rattling home from school like so many escaped pigs from a muddy pen. Here comes one with the handle torn off her dinner-basket; another, with her apron in her hand; another, with her wet feet; another, with a scratched face, while Young America comes with his trowsers legs ripped from his boots to his knees; one goes for the sugar-bowl, another for the preserves; another for a loaf of bread, and the pandemonium thus illustrated is but the foreground of the hell that follows.

Now for a ride on the wheelbarrow and the hand-sled, with the "littlest" always in front as a fender, and down the hill they go, striking the trees and fences, half spilling and half killing the little "fellers," who have been placed in front by the more crafty ones

of experience. Then comes music—sweet chin-music from the whole band, while up the hill they crawl with their red fingers and ears, vowing vengeance each on the other as they come up to the appellat court of their indulgent mother to make an exhibit of torn clothes and heads, and ears plastered with mud and snow. The court, after patiently listening to the evidence, threatens to “skin them alive” if they ever do the like again ; and, for the want of a whip in the house and a disposition to use one, the case goes up to the supreme court of their father.

Supper is ready and but one or two respond. They had too much when they came home from school. After supper is over, the performance begins : tops, marbles and doll-babies all come around in turn. Then one gets into the rocking-chair, and all want it, must have it, can't do without it ; one crawls in back of the one in front ; another, still behind her, and so on till the chair is full to the top, when the one in front is crowded out and over goes the chair, and down come the passengers, and another singing-school is begun, where all the key-notes are struck, from the finest treble to the coarsest bass.

The evening's entertainment winds up with a ball—through the window, a doll all gone to smash, the rocker split off the rocking-chair, and an endless variety of disputes.

Bed-time has come. There lies one under the table, fast asleep, another under the stand, and another on the lounge. On being aroused and ordered to bed, two or three of the youngest are bound to sleep with their mother ; another will go up stairs for five cents ; another wants a handful of sugar ; another a stick of gum, till their mother, provoked beyond endurance, brings out the album, and, showing them the profile of their father, tells them she can hear him coming, when they scamper off to bed in quick meter.

Many others in Floyd County have contributed able poems and prose articles to the newspaper press, but mostly under initials only or fictitious names ; as, “Crispin,” “Meave,” “R. M. C.,” etc. Also, we make honorable mention of Dr. J. W. Smith, Mrs. Lida E. Reiniger, Miss H. F. Brainard and W. S. Rider (deceased).

## CHAPTER XIV.

### THE PRESS.

There is no instrumentality, not even excepting the pulpit and the bar, which exerts such an influence upon society as the press of the land. It is the Archimedian lever that moves the world. The talented minister of the gospel on the Sabbath day preaches to a few hundred people; on the following morning his thoughts are reproduced more than a thousand fold, and are read and discussed throughout the length and breadth of the land. The attorney at the bar, in thrilling tones, pleads either for or against the criminal arraigned for trial, often causing the jury to bring in verdict against the law and the testimony in the case. His words are reproduced in every daily reached by the telegraphic wire, and his arguments are calmly weighed by unprejudiced men and accepted for what they are worth. The politician takes the stand and addresses a handful of men upon the political questions of the day; his speech is reported and read by a thousand men for every one that heard the address. Suddenly the waters of one of our mighty rivers rise, overflowing the land for miles and miles, rendering thousands of people homeless and without means to secure their daily bread. The news is flashed over the wire, taken up by the press, and is known and read of all men. No time is lost in sending to their relief—the press has made known their wants and they are instantly supplied. “Chicago is on fire! Two hundred millions worth of property destroyed! Fifty thousand people rendered homeless!” Such is the dread intelligence proclaimed by the press. Food and clothing are hastily gathered, trains are chartered, and the immediate wants of the sufferers are in a measure relieved.

The power for good or evil of the press, is to-day unlimited. The short comings of the politician are made known through its columns; the dark deeds of the wicked are exposed; and each fear it alike. The controlling influence of a Nation, State or county is its press, and the press of Floyd County is no exception to the rule.



## CHARLES CITY INTELLIGENCER.

The first newspaper printed and published in Floyd County was the "*St. Charles Republican Intelligencer*." This journal was established, printed and owned by A. B. F. Hildreth and D. D. W. Carver, both experienced newspaper men. Their printing material was all new, purchased in New York City, and shipped thence to St. Charles in the spring of 1856. These men also bought in New York a chest of carpenter tools, with which, and with their own hands, they erected in St. Charles (now Charles City) what has ever since been known as the "Intelligencer Building," on the corner of Main and Kelly streets. Much of the lumber for this building they carried on their backs from the Kelly saw-mill at the foot of Main street.

On the 31st of July, 1856, the initial number of the *Intelligencer* made its appearance. It was a folio sheet, well edited, handsomely printed, and contained seven columns to the page. It had for its motto the often misquoted words of Bishop Berkley:

"Westward the course of empire takes its way."

The news spread over town that the paper was about to appear, and several persons desired to secure the first impression. As there could be but one sheet of this kind, and nearly one hundred people had assembled in front of the printing office, all eager for the news, the crowd shouted: "Set up the first paper at auction; we will bid on it." This request was complied with, after which the following paragraph was promptly inserted:

"We stop the press to publish that, so great was the rush and anxiety among our friends to secure the *first* copy (impression) of the *St. Charles Republican Intelligencer*, an auction was proposed, when Wm. Spencer, Esq., as auctioneer, struck off the same to the highest bidder for the handsome sum of \$20. The lucky purchasers were Duncan Ferguson and G. B. Eastman, of the firm of Ferguson & Eastman, bankers, dealers in exchange and land agents, St. Charles, Floyd County, Ia."

Mr. Eastman was determined that the first impression of the first number should not go out of town, and having to bid against parties from Rockford, Ill., who had interests here, the price ran up to the fabulous sum named above.

At the close of the sale a large number of subscriptions were at once handed in, and the demand for extra copies exceeded anything of the kind previously experienced by these enterprising publishers.

During the first year of the publication of the *Intelligencer* its advertising patronage was so increased that, on Oct. 7, 1857, it was enlarged so as to give nine columns to the page, or thirty-six for the whole sheet. It was also given a new and beautiful heading. For this, Mr. Hildreth designed a very pretty vignette, having in the center the territorial seal of Iowa (a hawk with an arrow in his beak and a bow in his talons), and on either side of it emblems of the settlement of a new country—the emigrant wagon, farming tools, sheaves of grain, the flowing river, flouring mill, printing press, Indians' tents, and the red men gazing in astonishment upon the changed order of things. This design was engraved in Boston, and, with the entire heading, was electrotyped at an expense of \$30.

The financial crisis that came upon the country in 1857, affected the business men of Floyd County as well as those of the Eastern States, and just as the *Intelligencer* had enlarged its capabilities for accommodating the business of the county, its patronage and support began to decline; but the size of the paper was never cut down, nor was there any falling off in the ability and interest of its editorial columns, as was the case at that time with nearly all other Western newspapers. To maintain the present size and character of the *Intelligencer* required economy and money, and then its publication could only be continued at a loss, some years, of many hundreds of dollars. Fortunately Mr. Hildreth had the means to sustain himself in the arduous avocation. But his partner, Mr. Carver, became discouraged, and Aug. 1, 1859, sold out his interest in the paper to Mr. H., who conducted the business thereafter alone.

In January, 1862, the name of the paper was changed to "Hildreth's Charles City Intelligencer." Business revived, and the paper prospered. From 1860, and during the succeeding nine years, the *Intelligencer* was appointed, by the General Government, as one of the papers in Iowa in which to publish the laws of Congress. It also had the printing of the State laws during that time. A review of its columns shows that it had an able corps of correspondents, in Japan and on the continent of Europe, as well as in Washington, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chi-

cago, and other parts of the United States. Among its poetic contributors were Mrs. Elizabeth Akers Allen, of Richmond, Virginia, better known as "Florence Percy," author of "Rock Me to Sleep, Mother;" W. A. Bacon, of Detroit, Michigan; Matilda Fletcher, and many others of Iowa. Its regular army correspondence during the war of the Rebellion, was full and of the highest character. Among the latter writers was Winfield Scott Rider, of Floyd, whose army letters were always perused with deep interest.

In a volume entitled the "Valley and the Shadow," now before us, published in 1868 by J. M. Dixon, formerly associate editor of the *Iowa State Register* at Des Moines, under the head of "Iowa Journalism," we find the following:

"Many of my readers have noticed, for several years, a sheet of elegant appearance, called the *Intelligencer*, which is published in Charles City, Floyd County. Hon. A. B. F. Hildreth, its owner and conductor, was a member, several years since, of the State Board of Education, for which position his scholarly habits and tastes clearly adapted him. Subsequently he was a member of the Legislature, giving ample evidence that he was as proficient in legislating for the general interests of Iowa as for the special interests of popular education. His enterprise and his admirable economy, as well as his talent in editorial management, give him the ability to publish one of the finest looking weekly papers in all the Israel of Iowa. He is a gentleman of quick conception, of careful but not hesitating judgment, passionate in his love of literature, and very strong in his general attachments and prepossessions. It is a miracle of success, that he never was compelled, through all the vicissitudes of the past eight years, to reduce the size of his very large paper, or to make any radical changes in it which looked to diminution of weekly expenditure."

It must not be supposed that all was smooth sailing and an open sea in the management of the *Intelligencer*. With the masses of the people the paper was always popular, but with certain unworthy third-rate politicians the case was different. Men of this class found but little favor in the columns of the *Intelligencer*, and of course they were not pleased with it. These "political paupers" always wish to ride the press, but are never known to pay for riding. When their "claims" were rejected, and coaxing and flattery would effect nothing, threats were tried; they would "kill the paper and hang its hide on the fence." But instead of the "killing"

the paper would thrive all the better under this kind of opposition. The common people are honest. They like a bold, faithful leader, one who will protect their interests and expose corruption; and when men set themselves up for office who had never shown capability in any legitimate business of their own, and abused the *Intelligencer* because they could not control it, the citizens of the county would give it a still more liberal support. The paper was always Republican in politics, and "principles rather than men" seems to have been its guiding sentiment. Under Mr. Hildreth's management it always maintained a high moral tone. Every parent felt safe in placing it in the hands of his children. Specialist medical advertisements were scrupulously excluded from its columns, no matter what the money temptation might be to procure their insertion.

On the 1st of October, 1870, after a period of fourteen years' laborious editorial service in Charles City, Mr. Hildreth sold the *Intelligencer* and his entire printing establishment to Messrs. Dyke & Rowell, and retired permanently from the field of journalism.

Mr. Rowell, who had been for a number of years an employe in the government printing office in Washington, not taking a liking to the West, sold his interest in the paper to W. H. Leonard, Feb. 16, 1871. In October of the next year, Mr. Leonard having been offered a half interest in the Janesville, Wis., *Recorder*, on very advantageous terms, sold out to C. L. Dyke, and the firm name of the publishers became Dyke Bros., the same as to-day. During this year Rev. John A. Cruzan, the "printer preacher," edited a religious column, which added much to the value of the paper. He was pastor of the Congregational church. In the spring of 1874 the publishers were taken with the California fever, and on the first of May sold to the Owens Bros., and wended their way to the Eldorado. In July of this year, the old and beautiful heading was changed for the one in use at present, and the page head-lines were dropped. Feb. 25, 1875, H. L. Owens, who had become sole proprietor in the preceding fall, sold to C. A. Slocum, who in turn, March 16, 1876, sold to Dyke Bros., who had returned from California, and the paper has since been controlled by the latter. In 1876-'7, a temperance column was published, with Mrs. E. L. Slocum, editor; she was succeeded by Addis Schermerhorn, and the column was a feature of the paper until after the passage of the amendment, when it was discontinued. In 1878-'9, a teachers'

column was edited by Capt. G. H. Nichols, County Superintendent of Schools. The *Intelligencer* has always led the other papers of the county in circulation, and since 1876, when Dyke Bros. last purchased it, has run up its list from less than 800, to over 1,400, which circulation it still maintains. The office is one of the best-equipped in Northern Iowa. It has a ten-column Campbell press (without tapes) for newspaper work, half Nonpareil, and eight Peerless presses for job work, Peerless paper cutter, and an immense amount of material of all kinds necessary for a first-class office. The power is supplied by wire cable from the Water Power Company's mill, 514 feet distant, and is carried over the roofs of several high buildings. It is the perfection of power, safe, steady and reliable. The Dyke Bros. are both practical printers, and as ready with the composing stick and rule as with the pen, which accounts something for their success in the business. The paper has always been staunch Republican, and is the recognized organ of the better elements of the party. Its proprietors have always carefully refrained from surrendering it to any of the "isms" which have of late years infested politics, consequently it has the confidence of the "bone and sinew" of the great party which has ruled Iowa so many years. It has often had bitter political fights on hand, but these have usually been managed with such consummate skill as to secure success for its side of the contest. Of course, such a paper has enemies, but its hosts of friends outnumber them a hundred to one.

The general style of the paper is very neat and tasty, and the editorial work and make-up and press work, is a credit to Iowa journalism, than which no higher praise can be given.

There are less than a score of older papers in the State, and it has never changed its name or its politics.

E. B. Dyke is editor, and C. L. Dyke business manager.

Azro Benjamin Franklin Hildreth, one of the early settlers of Charles City, was born in Chelsea, Orange County; Vt., on the 29th day of February, A. D. 1816. His father, Daniel Hildreth, was born in Pepperell, Middlesex County, Mass., in 1783, and at an early age removed with his parents to Vermont. James Hildreth, father of Daniel Hildreth, and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was of the old Puritan stock, and of English origin. Richard Hildreth, the progenitor of all the Hildreths in America, came with a small colony of Puritans from the north of England, about twenty years after the landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth

Rock, and settled in Woburn, near Boston. The mother of Daniel Hildreth, and wife of James Hildreth, was Esther Fletcher, daughter of Lieutenant Timothy Fletcher, of Westford, Mass., a gentleman of some note at the time of, and previous to, the Revolution, and whose family name, as well as that of Hildreth, has been somewhat distinguished to the present day. Daniel Webster's first wife was of that family, and their oldest son bore the cognomen of Fletcher Webster.

The mother of A. B. F. Hildreth was Clarissa Tyler, daughter of Jonathan Tyler. She was born in Piermont, Grafton County, N. H., July 5, 1794.

History informs us that, in the year 1682, a family of emigrants arrived from England, bearing the name of Tyler. The father's christian name is not given. His sons were Daniel, David and John. Daniel settled in Connecticut, David in Massachusetts, and John in New Jersey. The families of the first two passed up the valley of the Connecticut River, and located in Piermont, N. H., while the New Jersey branch wandered southward to Virginia. To the latter branch belonged John Tyler, who was at one time President of the United States.

The wife of Jonathan Tyler, son of Daniel Tyler, was Sarah McConnell, to whom he was married shortly after settling in Piermont, when she was of the tender age of twelve and one-half years. She was of Scotch origin, of fair complexion, and her beauty so won the affection of young Tyler that, young as she was, he was induced to propose marriage, and was accepted. She was the mother of thirteen children, and died in 1815, at the age of fifty-three years, beloved and lamented by all who knew her. Her husband, Jonathan Tyler, lived to the advanced age of ninety-six years, and died in 1848, at Piermont, N. H. He was a soldier of the war of 1812-'15.

Daniel Hildreth and Clarissa Tyler were united in wedlock at Piermont, N. H., June 9, 1814, and immediately removed to their new home in Chelsea, Vt. A farm had been purchased in that new locality, and here they, with toil and patience, made them a home which in time afforded many of the comforts and even luxuries of life. There were born to them twelve children, six sons and six daughters, of whom A. B. F. Hildreth was the oldest. Daniel Hildreth, the father, died on the old homestead, in 1858, at the age of seventy-five years and six months. His wife survived him a little more than eleven years, and died in 1870, aged

seventy-five years and nine months. Both were members of the Congregational church, and died, as they had lived, sincere and devoted Christians. Agriculture was their principal avocation through life. In the business of stock raising, horses and cattle, and especially in wool-growing, the family were quite successful, and enjoyed a fair share of this world's goods.

It will be seen from the above that A. B. F. Hildreth was born and bred a farmer. He early manifested a fondness for books and soon acquired a good common-school education. When at the age of sixteen years, he taught a district school in Piermont, New Hampshire. The present companion of his declining years was then a pupil in his school, and gave him the cognomen of "The beardless school-master." For several years he was accustomed to toil upon his father's farm during the spring and summer months, attend a fall term at the academy, and teach a school in the winter.

At the age of twenty years Mr. Hildreth obtained the consent of his parents to go out into the world and seek his fortune. He soon found himself in the city of New York, and obtained employment there in the house of a book publisher. The next spring, 1837, he was thrown out of business by the failure of his employer, who went down in the terrible financial crash that year. His preservation from vice or crime, while in that city, may be attributed to the excellent moral and religious training which he had received from his parents.

Returning to the old home in the Green Mountain State, and loving literature better than farming, he accepted a position in the newspaper and job printing establishment of Wm. Hewes, in his native town, where he gained a knowledge of the art of printing and the profession of a journalist. In 1839 he located in Lowell, Mass., and established himself in business as printer and publisher. His publications there were the *Daily Morning News*, the *Literary Souvenir* (weekly), and the *Ladies' Literary Repository* (semi-monthly).

After a few years Mr. Hildreth sold out his business in Lowell and removed to Boston, but was soon induced to enter the field of journalism again, in Bradford, Vt. Here, in 1843, he opened a newspaper and job printing establishment, and began the publication of a weekly newspaper called the *American Protector*, a high tariff or protectionist paper, which advocated the election of Henry Clay for President; and a monthly magazine known as the *Green Mountain Gem*.

With the defeat of Henry Clay subsided the hopes and energies of the protection or Whig party in Vermont. The publication of the *Protector* was discontinued, and in its place was issued the *Vermont Family Gazette*, a weekly literary and family newspaper. This latter journal soon became popular throughout Vermont, had a good circulation, and in connection with the *Green Mountain Gem*, gave its enterprising publisher a handsome support. After continuing the printing and publishing business in Bradford some ten years, a returned Californian, with his pockets full of gold, came along and bought out the entire business, leaving Mr. Hildreth free to seek new fields of labor.

While living in Bradford, on the 21st day of October, 1844, Mr. Hildreth was married to Liveria Aurette Knight, of Fryeburg, Oxford County, Maine, a lady of education and refinement. Her father was Josiah Knight, then proprietor of the celebrated Oxford House, the popular stage hotel at that place, on the route from Portland to the White Mountains; and for the last twenty-five years he was a venerable citizen of Charles City, Iowa.

Mr. Knight was a son of Dr. Jonathan Knight, and was born in Westmoreland, N. H., March 8, 1792. He died at Charles City, Iowa, March 16, 1882, aged ninety years and eight days. His mother's maiden name was Betsey Dudley, who was born at Harvard, Mass., Oct. 31, 1764, and died in Piermont, N. H., May 8, 1866, at the remarkable age of 103 years and 6 months.

The mother of Mrs. Hildreth, and wife of Josiah Knight, was Betsey Joslin, daughter of Peter Joslin, who married Sarah Kidder in Winchendon, Mass., June 1, 1785. Mrs. Knight was born in Winchendon Jan. 1, 1789, and died in Charles City, Ia., Dec. 25, 1858, aged sixty-nine years. She was a most estimable woman.

Mrs. Hildreth was born in Surry, N. H., June 11, 1817. Her only child was Mary Liveria Aurette Hildreth, born at Bradford, Vt., June 23, 1851, and died in Charles City, Iowa, Nov. 30, 1857, aged six years, five months and seven days. She was a precocious child. In her birth many hopes were centered—in her death all these were forever blasted.

After closing up his business in Bradford, Vt., Mr. Hildreth removed to Holyoke, Mass., in January, 1853, and engaged in mercantile business. Not many months elapsed before some of the leading citizens there, induced him to relinquish his store and once more engage in the work of newspaper printing and publish-



ing. In this he was very successful. His newspaper was called the Holyoke *Mirror*. He conducted the business until November, 1855, when he sold out, and in the spring of 1856 removed to Charles City, Ia.

At that time Floyd County was a new country, and many hardships and privations were to be endured. Here was opened a broad field for enterprise and usefulness. How unlike the old overcrowded towns of Eastern States, where business is overdone and competition crowds out or crushes under every new comer, who is looked upon as an interloper. In the great and growing West men are wanted and are welcomed. In those days Charles City contained a population of only a few hundred. Not a dozen frame houses were to be seen in the whole town, the others being built of logs. Provisions were very scarce, and could only be obtained at high prices. The few settlers who had come into the county during the previous year had raised but a small quantity of farm produce, not nearly enough to supply the rapidly increasing demand of the new settlers who succeeded them. There was no time for idleness.

Mr. Hildreth erected a two-story frame building, the lower story for a store and the upper story for his printing office, and had it ready for occupancy in June, and before cold weather came he had also built a comfortable dwelling-house.

On the 31st of July, 1856, he issued the first number of his newspaper, the *Republican Intelligencer*. It contained seven columns to the page, was handsomely printed, and furnished much interesting and valuable reading. The advent of this journal in this then new town, was an event of much importance to settlers, and the *first sheet* struck off was sold at auction for \$20. During the day and evening a large number of subscriptions was handed in, and three editions of the paper of 1,000 each were printed before the demand could be supplied. The *Intelligencer* grew to be a power in the land. Before the year closed it was enlarged to nine columns to the page. When first started, the politics of the county were controlled by the Democrats. This was soon changed. The Republicans came into power and have held control of the county ever since.

In 1858 Mr. Hildreth was elected as a member of the State Board of Education, representing a district composed of the counties of Allamakee, Winneshiek, Howard, Mitchell, Floyd, Chickasaw, Fayette, Clayton, Bremer, and Butler. This board held its

biennial session in the Capitol at Des Moines, and had control of all the educational interests of the State, except private or sectarian institutions. As a member of this board, Mr. Hildreth held a prominent and leading position, and the impress of his mind and acts is still left upon the educational laws and institutions of the State. Among the more important results of his legislative efforts in behalf of education was a law requiring the State University at Iowa City, to be opened to young ladies and free alike to them, as well as young gentlemen. This measure met with considerable opposition, both from the people and the press of the State—it being the popular opinion that it would never do to educate the sexes together. What an absurdity! As if men and women were not created for each other's society. The law prevailed, providing that the State University shall be for the free education of *the youth* of Iowa of *both sexes* upon *equal terms* in all respects; and to-day no legislator dare raise his hand or voice in favor of its repeal.

A few years later, when Mr. Hildreth was a member of the General Assembly, he was appointed by that body as chairman of a select committee to investigate and report upon the affairs of the university. He has said that one of the proudest days of his life was when he was permitted to stand up in the university chapel, in the presence of more than two hundred young lady students, and nearly as many young gentlemen students, and, in the course of an address requested by the President, explain how it happened that those young ladies were permitted to enjoy such exalted educational privileges. When the exercises had closed the grateful thanks tendered him by those young ladies for his efforts in their behalf, repaid him a thousand fold for all that he had done for them. The officers and professors of the university assured him that the plan of the co-education of the sexes was working well. A spirit of emulation and rivalry was awakened which was profitable to both, and there was no difficulty in regard to morals or general deportment.

In the spring of 1861, immediately after the war of the Rebellion, Mr. Hildreth was appointed Draft Commissioner for Floyd County, by Gov. S. J. Kirkwood, since known as Iowa's "war governor." Every able-bodied citizen, liable to bear arms, was promptly enrolled and held subject to draft whenever a draft should be ordered. This difficult and delicate business was transacted faithfully and to the satisfaction of all concerned.

In the fall of 1863 Mr. Hildreth was elected to represent the Fifty-fourth District of Iowa in the Tenth General Assembly. As a legislator he acquitted himself with much credit and to the general acceptance of his constituents. He was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Schools and State University, and was also a member of the Committee on Banks and Banking, and of the Committee on Printing. Any one at all familiar with the work of legislation can readily understand that these were very important committees, and that the amount of labor incumbent upon them was necessarily large.

Mr. Hildreth was very successful in carrying through the Legislature whatever measure he was interested in. Among the more important, and one that proved of lasting benefit to his part of the State, was a memorial to Congress asking for a grant of land to aid in the construction of a railroad on or near the forty-third parallel of north latitude, and passing from McGregor, on the Mississippi River, westward through his own town of Charles City. Repeated efforts had been made by others to obtain this land grant and secure the building of this railroad, but all had signally failed until the enterprise was taken hold of by Mr. Hildreth.

A copy of the memorial, above referred to, may be found in this volume in that portion of the chapter on railroads which pertains to the McGregor & Western Railroad, now known as the "Iowa & Dakota Division of the Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad."

Hon. James Harlan, then a member of the United States Senate, introduced a bill in the Senate, making a grant of lands as prayed for in the memorial, which became a law, and as a result the railroad was built and operated within a few years thereafter, greatly to the convenience and benefit of the settlers along the line of the road.

Mr. Hildreth was one of the incorporators of the Congregational society of Charles City, of which church his wife was a member. He is somewhat liberal in his religious views, and inclines to the sentiments of the Unitarian wing of the New England Congregationalists, who are a very numerous and influential body of Christians in New England. Both he and his wife are constant attendants and supporters of the Congregational church.

On the first of October, 1870, Mr. Hildreth sold the *Intelligencer* newspaper and his entire printing establishment to Messrs. Dyke & Rowell, and retired from active business. Having only

himself and wife to provide for, he believed he had acquired a competency for their remaining years. They have a pleasant home, surrounded with many attractions and pleasing associations. Here they are enjoying the fruits of an industrious and useful life in the perusal of a well stocked library, and in social intercourse with neighbors and friends.

In the spring of 1871 the First National Bank of Charles City was organized. In this enterprise Mr. Hildreth took an active part. From the beginning he has been one of its directors, and a part of the time vice-president.

On the 25th of August, 1873, the Floyd County Savings Bank, at Charles City, was incorporated. In this institution Mr. Hildreth has ever been a stockholder and director. At the first meeting of the board he was elected its president and has held that office to the present time.

For many years Mr. Hildreth has been a member of the School Board of Charles City, and much of the time has been its president, which office he now holds. His well known educational tastes and proclivities, as well as business tact, admirably fit him for that position. He was never an office-seeker, and it is said that he was never known to ask a man for his vote. His idea of propriety in such matters is, that the office should seek the man and not the man the office. As a business man he has the confidence of all who know him, and no one can gainsay his integrity.

Eugene B. Dyke, editor of the INTELLIGENCER, was born in Parish, Oswego County, N. Y., Jan. 11, 1842. He is of pure New England stock, and his ancestors on both sides date back of the Revolution, in which his great-grandfathers served as patriot soldiers. He came west with his parents in 1854, settling in Walworth County, Wisconsin. Here his life was passed upon the farm until 1861, when he entered the freshman class in Beloit College. He was absent from school during a part of his course, serving as a soldier in the Union army, in Company C, Forty-seventh Iowa Infantry. Returning to Beloit, he graduated with honor in the class of 1865. The next fall he commenced the study of law in the office of Sanders & Ludington, Syracuse, N. Y., where he was admitted to the bar in April, 1877. The next year was spent in legal study with the late Judge Knowlton of Chicago. Then for two years he occupied the position of superintendent of the graded schools of Rockville, Ind., which position he resigned in 1870 to

come to Charles City, where he had purchased the *Intelligencer* of its founder, Hon. A. B. F. Hildreth. Since that time, except the years 1874-'5, which he spent in California, his fortunes have been identified with those of his paper, which is among the oldest and most influential in the State. In December, 1873, Mr. Dyke was married to Miss Emily C. Gilbert, eldest daughter of Milo Gilbert, Esq., of Charles City. They have two children, Harry N., and Eva J., aged nine and six years respectively. Politically Mr. Dyke is a radical Republican, and conducts his paper on that basis; but at the same time, no man is more free and independent in criticising and censuring what he believes to be the faults and mistakes of his own party. He has always had pronounced views on all public questions, and has been free and fearless in expressing them.

#### THE FLOYD COUNTY ADVOCATE.

The *Floyd County Advocate*, was established in Charles City by Valentine Baltuff, and first number sent out on Friday, Nov. 20, 1868, as a staunch Republican eight-column folio, half co-operative. On Tuesday, June 22, 1869, he commenced issuing a semi-weekly, continuing until Jan. 1, 1870, then discontinuing it and returning to the weekly. On the 1st of April, 1873, C. A. Sloane bought the paper, material and good-will of the office, and on the 14th of May, same year, with new presses, new type and steam-power issued the *Advocate* with all home print and the largest paper in the county, establishing temperance and religious departments, which have been maintained ever since. Jan. 1, 1879, P. M. Wilbur was associated as partner, continuing until Oct. 1, 1881, when he retired and Mr. Slocum managed the paper alone. Through the campaign of the Prohibition amendment, the *Advocate* was earnest and diligent for its adoption, but remaining firm in its allegiance to the Republican party. It represents the highest moral tone of the community, having a principle to maintain in all its efforts.

Valentine Baltuff, founder of the *Floyd County Advocate*, and grocer, Charles City, was born in New York City, Jan. 1, 1834; his parents were Peter and Mary (Griffin) Baltuff. The former was a native of Germany, and came to America when a young man, locating in New York City, and engaged in merchant tailoring. He was a member of the German Methodist and she of the Episcopal church. They had a family of four sons and one daughter.

Valentine, subject of this sketch, was the eldest. When three years of age his father moved to Watertown, New York, and Valentine attended school until fifteen years of age, when he learned the printer's trade, at which he worked in New York, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri. At Lodi, Wisconsin, he published a paper, the *Lodi Herald*, and the *Columbus Transcript*, at Columbus, Wisconsin. In 1868, he sold out here and came to Charles City and established the *Floyd County Advocate*, and conducted this until 1878, when he sold out on account of poor health. In 1879, he purchased his present grocery store.

Mr. Baltuff married Miss M. Libbie McCall, at Waukesha, Wis., Sept. 26, 1859. She was born at Rushford, Allegany County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Aneil and Mary E. (Griffith) McCall. Mrs. Baltuff is a member of the Congregational church. Mr. and Mrs. Baltuff have had seven children, viz.: Harry A., born July 21, 1860, foreman of the job room of the *Advocate* in Charles City; Cora, Charles, Guy, Irvie, Nellie and Joseph, residing with their parents. Mr. Baltuff is a member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 141, and of Almond Chapter, No. 52.

C. A. Slocum was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., Feb. 21, 1836. Was reared in Edmeston, Otsego County, N. Y., receiving his education in the village schools and New Berlin, N. Y., Academy. In April, 1855, he came west to Wisconsin in company with three other young men. He there worked at and learned the carpenter's trade. February, 1859, went to St. Louis, Mo., working at his trade until October, 1860, when he went to Madison Parish, La., to work on plantation buildings, arriving there October 22, and remaining until April 22, 1861, after the Rebellion had become very exciting, and came to St. Louis on the last steamer north from Vicksburg. After one week in that city of excitement came to Charles City, arriving May 7, working at his trade through the summer, and in the following winter teaching the higher of the two town schools, Miss Ellen S. Wilbur (whom he married Aug. 26, 1863), teaching the primary. In August, 1862 with E. A. Reiniger commenced to raise a company for the Iowa Volunteers. At its organization he was elected Captain. The company was made "G" Company of the Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and rendezvoused at Dubuque, Ia.; mustered in, Oct., 3, 1862.

The regiment had a varied experience in Northern Minnesota first, then in the South and West, participating in many hard fights and terrible battles. He was wounded April 9, 1864, with a piece

of shell at Simmesport, La., in the last battle of the Red River Expedition. Came home in the spring of 1865. Jan. 1, 1866, went into County Treasurer's office as deputy, Remaining six years Jan. 1, 1872, was inaugurated County Auditor, holding the office until April, 1875, when he resigned, that he might give more time to the Charles City *Intelligencer* which he purchased in February, 1875. His health becoming poor from overwork, sold the *Intelligencer* in March, 1876. For two years after he devoted his time to a large real estate business which had been growing from 1867. In April, 1878, he bought the *Floyd County Advocate*, for the purpose of advancing if possible the cause of Prohibition, and at the same time establishing himself in business which was to his taste. He was an ardent champion for the Amendment in the Republican party, and holds fast to the moral vantage gained. For more than fourteen years he has been a member of the Congregational Church and Sunday-school. Three times he has served on the Iowa and City Council, and in 1865 and 1866 was a member of the Township School Board. Mr. and Mrs. Slocum have four children, three boys and one girl—W. Erskine, aged nearly sixteen; Gurnsey M., aged twelve; Horace W., aged nine, and Faith A., aged seven.

#### SHELL ROCK VALLEY GUARD.

This was a small-four page, seven-column weekly, started in 1872 by Edward Wood & Co. The paper was kept up for nearly three years, the latter part of the time by Mr. Wood alone. It was at first Republican in politics. After a time Mr. Wood was converted to the Democracy, and the paper also became of that faith. Mr. Wood then moved himself and paper to Decorah, Iowa. He is now editing a paper in Fremont County. The *Guard* was published in the old Masonic building, and was the precursor of the Rockford *Reveille*.

#### ROCKFORD REVEILLE.

The *Reveille* was started at Nora Springs, Thursday, Feb. 5, 1874. The proprietors were H. Gage, W. P. Gaylord and R. E. Robinson, the last two of whom acted as editors. It appeared as a four-page weekly, twenty-eight inches long, and eight columns to the page. It showed in its first number evidence of Mr. Gaylord's editorial ability, and the editorials were from the first spicy and vigorous. We give a few extracts from Mr. Gaylord's salutatory.

"Impelled by considerations of a higher and more inspiring character than those of private revenge or pecuniary gain, we have determined to edit, print and publish a newspaper at Nora Springs, Iowa. With us this is an experiment untried. To succeed we are aware that it will require patience and energy, wisdom and wit, time and cash, and a decent respect for the opinions of man kind. Whether we possess any or all of these qualifications will be for a discerning public to decide after we have had a fair trial and have made a full exhibit. In politics we are Republican. In religion, liberal. We shall be radical in all things and neutral in nothing; at all times avoiding an unjustifiable war on individuals or combinations; but when assailed without cause or provocation, we shall endeavor to leave the imprint of our teeth on our assailant.

"We propose to receive blows as well as give them, and our columns shall be ever free and our types ever ready to apologize or explain.

"Relying with unshaken confidence on the progressive intelligence and appreciative characteristics of a Western people, and on the continued and rapidly increasing prosperity of Nora Springs and its beautiful surroundings, we have selected a press and material inferior to none in this region, and intend to use them for the glory of God and the good of mankind.

"We have been told that *one* paper in a town like this is enough. So is one merchant, one lawyer, one doctor, one teacher, and one wise-phool; but if others choose to 'cast in their nets,' we know of no law this side of the Mosaic code to prevent it.

"We have been told that the sheriff will sell us out in less than a year; and that may be true, but if he advertises his 'sale' in the paper that has the 'largest circulation,' we shall know all about it, and shall be there in person or by legal representatives. We have been told that there is not news enough in a town like Nora Springs to make a paper interesting. Of course, we do not expect all the first-class sensations that horrify towns of older and larger growth, but our friends should remember that Nora Springs is rapidly growing, and as it grows older it will grow more and more wicked, and wickedness is one of the elements of journalism.

"Should these fruitful sources fail, then, as a *dernier resort*, we shall fall back on, and turn our attention to, prophesying.

"If astronomers, after having suveyed the face of nature, can predict with accuracy what the weather will be, then why cannot



editors survey the face of men, and correctly prophesy what the news will be? News is what we must have, and if events do not transpire rapidly enough for our use, we shall be obliged to draw largely on the imagination, so that if we should fail as editors and proprietors, we may succeed as prophets."

The *Reveille* bore from its first issue till that of May 23, 1878, a very appropriate motto: "Superior to adversity, equal to prosperity." It was discontinued by Robert Eggert at the same time that he enlarged the paper.

Jan. 1, 1875, important changes were made in the management of the *Reveille*. The paper was removed to Rockford, and its name changed to the *Rockford Reveille*. R. E. Robinson was the publisher, and Gaylord & Robinson's names appeared as editors still. Mr. Robinson removed to Rockford with the paper, and edited the local columns, and Mr. Gaylord remained at Nora Springs, sending his editorials by mail each week. This removal to Rockford seemed to be the best thing, under the circumstances, as the *Reveille* had an active rival at Nora Springs, in the shape of the *Floyd County Press*, while Rockford, a place of about the same size and prospects as Nora Springs, had no paper at all, the *Shell Rock Valley Guard* having been discontinued.

In April of the same year Captain Orlo H. Lyon, of Rockford, purchased a one-half interest in the *Reveille*, and his name appeared as one of the editors. In August, 1876, Mr. Robinson retired from the paper, having accepted a position in California. Captain Lyon was then sole proprietor until July 26, 1877, when he sold to Robert Eggert and H. B. Nies, the latter of whom had been for some time foreman in the office. Captain Lyon was, until this time, also, the actual editor, though until May 24, 1877, Mr. Gaylord's name was inserted as associate editor and he kept up a department on the second page headed "Nora Springs." Captain Lyon had bought the paper when it was a losing concern, and during his connection with it had, by energy and industry, converted it into a paying paper. He had undertaken the work for the sake of Rockford, believing that the town needed a paper and could support it, and he deserves great credit for his success. A full biographical sketch of Captain Lyon is given elsewhere in this volume.

Eggert and Nies then conducted the *Reveille* until April, 1878, when Mr. Nies retired, leaving Mr. Eggert sole editor and proprietor. He enlarged the paper to nine columns to the page, May 23,

of the same year, and continued in charge of the paper until July, 1882, when he sold to F. L. Whitney & Co.

F. L. Whitney, editor and one of the proprietors of the *Reveille*, was born at Rockford, April 10, 1861. His parents were Lewellyn and Pamela (Otis) Whitney, the former a native of Maine, being born at Corinna in that State, and the latter of New York, born at Potsdam. Mr. Whitney was a millwright by occupation. He was married March 25, 1852, at New Haven, Conn. He removed from there to Morrisania, N. Y., and from there in March, 1847, to Rockford, Floyd County, Iowa. Mr. Whitney has since been engaged in various pursuits, and still resides at Rockford, with Mrs. Whitney. Mr. Whitney's parents still live, at an advanced age, at Hampton, Franklin County; and Mrs. Whitney's parents are also both alive, at Rochelle, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitney have had six children born, of whom four are now living—Ella Jeannette, was born Nov. 1, 1854, and died Oct. 12, 1855. Adella L. E., was born Nov. 5, and died at the age of six years. Mary Estella, was born Dec. 3, 1858, and was married to Edwin C. Hazlett, March 25, 1878. Francis L., our subject, was born April 10, 1861. George F., was born March 22, 1864, and resides at home. John B., was born March 16, 1866, and is also at home.

Francis L., the subject of this sketch, passed his early life in Rockford, receiving his education in the public schools, and by select reading at home. Aug. 9, 1876, he went to Hampton, Franklin County, Iowa, and entered the office of his uncle, John C. Whitney, editor and proprietor of the *Hampton Chronicle*. Here he remained nearly six years; three years as apprentice, and three as foreman. He is naturally devoted to the business, and his experience derived in his uncle's office, together with his natural capacity and energy, are the best assurances of his success in his new undertaking, the management of the *Reveille*. He bought this in partnership with his father in the early part of July, 1882, of Robert Eggert, and his first number was issued July 13.

#### MARBLE ROCK WEEKLY.

The southwestern part of Floyd County supports a newsy, readable paper of the above name at Marble Rock. It was established at Marble Rock, in 1875, the first number being issued Aug. 12. The proprietor and editor was L. J. Keyes, formerly of Waverly, Bremer County, now well-known as the editor of the *Odd Fellows'*

*Monitor*, published at Nora Springs, in this county. The paper when started was, as now, a four-page weekly, the inside printed on the "co-operative" plan, and containing the usual miscellaneous reading, and the outside, or first and fourth pages, containing the editorials and local items. There was a good showing of advertisements, almost all of them of firms in Marble Rock, showing that the merchants of the village were sensible of the necessity for cordially supporting a home paper, in order to build up their already flourishing place.

The *Weekly* was at first 20 x 32, six columns to the page. In 1877 it was enlarged to seven columns to the page, and after a short time it was again enlarged, this time to eight columns to the page, the sheet being 24 x 36. The publishers at this time were George H. Nichols & Co. Nov. 9, 1876, Mr. Keyes sold an interest in the paper to George H. Nichols, who had taught school the year previous at Marble Rock, but was formerly from Cedar Rapids. The firm name then became Nichols & Keyes; Mr. Nichols assuming the editorial management of the paper, and Mr. Keyes confining himself to the mechanical part of the paper, and to job work. The firm placed a motto at the head of their sheet—"With malice toward none, and charity for all." This motto has been kept to the present time. Mr. Nichols was a writer of some ability, and a ready thinker. His "editorial bow," which appeared in the first number after he assumed charge, is here given:

"Here I am, five feet ten in my stockings, a native of the Empire State. I was born pretty, but I lost my front teeth at an early age, and never fully recovered from the deformity. My running weight is one hundred and forty pounds avordupois, and chuck full of newspaper grit, but very modest. I don't know enough to write as funny as 'Orpheus C. Kerr' and 'Artemus Ward,' and after much study I am forced to the conclusion that 'Nasby's' early education has been neglected; in fact, he can't spell, and of course won't do for a model, so our readers will have to take it my way. Politically, we shall ever pin our faith, to the principles promulgated by the Republican party, and while we may admit, that the party has been guilty of errors, we can never forget that its party work has been grand and triumphant. It has broken the shackles of four millions of human beings. It has given us the best currency in the civilized world. It has proven that international arbitration is productive of better results than court chambers. That the declaration of independence made by

our forefathers, was no idle boast. It has promptly brought to justice, without regard to rank or station, all who would be leeches upon the country's revenue, and 'with malice toward none, and charity for all' we will stand by the principles so ably expounded by our martyred President. To the press of northern Iowa we would say, that it is with no small degree of hesitation, or light estimate of the duties devolving upon us, that we assume this position. It has been truly said, that as is the press so are the people. That Iowa, so young in years, takes front rank with older States in commerce, agriculture and education, is largely owing to the fact that her press has been backed by men with grit and brains. Men who know the right; and dare to do it. May our "Faber" never do aught to tarnish Iowa journalism. To our immediate patrons, we would say, that the generous manner in which you have given your influence and money in support of the *Weekly*, proves that you have intelligence to appreciate a good thing, and the grit to hold on to it. We shall strive to keep it up to its present standard. We propose to give you a *newsy* paper, 'red hot, and a heatin'—of course you furnish the fat. We will ever be found pushing to the front home men, and local interests; always striving to be on the side of right, for righteousness' sake. G. H. NICHOLS."

The *Weekly* was continued by Nichols & Keyes, until April 3, 1877, when the partnership was dissolved, and L. J. Keyes alone published the paper during the month of April. May 3, however, another change was made. Messrs. Nichols & Keyes formed another partnership, and arranged to carry on two papers—the *Weekly*, at Marble Rock, under the firm name of George H. Nichols & Co., and the *Telephone*, at Nora Springs, under the firm name of L. J. Keyes & Co. Mr. Keyes then went to Nora Springs, and Mr. Nichols remained at Marble Rock. After a short time this arrangement was discontinued, and each became sole proprietor of the paper of which he was editor. From the issue of May 3, 1877, the following valedictory of Mr. Keyes is taken, and also the spicy salutory of Mr. Nichols:

"It will be seen by this issue of the *Weekly* that we have surrendered the editorial chair to Professor Nichols and expect soon to 'take up our bed and walk.' Flattering inducements have persuaded us to this move, and though much we regret to leave our present location, we feel it an urgent duty, and reluctantly say the words commonly used by friends at parting, 'good-bye.' We

shall ever look back to Marble Rock with pleasant recollections, trusting that we go with the best wishes of many friends. Professor Nichols will again enliven the pages of the *Weekly* with spicy editorials, and with his business qualifications will extend the circulation much beyond its present limits.

“Respectfully, L. J. KEYES.”

“With this number of the *Weekly* we again take up the pen editorial, and we propose to do our level best to make the Marble Rock *Weekly* a credit to our town, and an honor to the press of Northern Iowa. We don’t propose to tell why we severed our connection with the *Weekly* a few months since, nor why we now return to its *sanctum*, as we don’t consider it anybody’s business. We *do* intend to give our many patrons the local, state, national and foreign news, fresh and sparkling. To war against wrong and fight for the right. “The greatest good to the greatest number” will be our motto. In taking the chair so long and so faithfully occupied by Brother Keyes, we realize that we have work to do, if we would retain the prestige for the *Weekly* it has so honorably gained under his management, but our trust is in God, and our faith in the good people of Marble Rock and vicinity is unbounded. We ask and expect the continued support that has been so generously given to its former management, and with it, we will ever labor to make the *Weekly* a welcome visitor to our patrons.”

Mr. Nichols continued in charge of the *Weekly* until July 11, 1878, when he retired, on account of being elected County Superintendent of Schools. He served in this capacity four years, and was then appointed Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He is now at Des Moines, in his official capacity. Mr. Nichols made the *Weekly* much more of a success, financially, than it had been before. He increased considerably the circulation of the paper, and laid the foundation of the popularity which has been so steadily maintained since by Mr. Nies, his successor. Mr. Nichols said, on leaving the *Weekly*:

“With this number of the *Weekly* we sever our connection with it as editor and proprietor, which has existed so pleasantly for the past eighteen months. To the business men of Marble Rock I would say that for the generous manner in which you have aided me, I shall ever feel grateful. To the hundreds of subscribers, with whom my relations have been pleasant, I would say that I shall ever look back to the times that I have talked to you through

these columns, with a consciousness that I did the best I could under the circumstances, and that when I erred, it was an error of the head and not of the heart. Mr. Nies, my successor, whose paper you now hold in your hand, needs no introduction from me. He has been for years a resident of your county. He is by choice and profession a printer, and as such has labored among you for the past ten years. It will be his ambition to do for you what I would have wished to do,—give you a paper that will be second to none in the Shell Rock Valley. In closing, I would bespeak for him the same courtesies that have so kindly been bestowed upon me.

GEORGE H. NICHOLS."

Mr. Henry B. Nies, the present editor and proprietor, was born near Frankfort on the Maine, Germany, Feb. 1, 1854. His parents were George and Barbara (Winkler) Nies, natives of the same place. His father was a shoemaker by trade, and emigrated to this country in 1864, settling at Rockville, Conn., with his wife and four children. The family resided there about four years, and then moved westward, locating at Charles City. Here Mr. Nies lived, following his regular occupation as shoemaker, until the fall of 1877, when he again removed to Dallas, Texas. Here he died, after a week's illness, July 31, 1878. Mrs. Nies still lives at Dallas. They had a family of eight children, six of whom are living. Of these, the second, George E. Nies, is at Waco, Texas; a telegraph operator by occupation. He was married May 3, 1882, to Dora L. Blandin, of Fort Worth. Anna, Lizzie, Leopold and Carrie L. are all at home with Mrs. Nies, at Dallas.

The subject of this memoir, Henry B. Nies, is the oldest of the family. He attended the public schools in Germany four years, coming with his parents to America at the age of ten. At Rockville, Conn., he attended school for a while, and then was employed in woolen-mills until the family came to Charles City, in 1868. Here he entered the public schools for a few months, and then entered the office of the *Floyd County Advocate*, just started at Charles City by Valentine Baltuff. With Mr. Baltuff he remained as apprentice two and a half years, and then attended a normal school at Galena, Ill., for a year. Thence he went to Albert Lea, Minn., and was employed as compositor in the office of the *Albert Lea Enterprise*. In August, 1872, he became a partner in this paper, with which he was connected about nine months. The *Enterprise* proved a failure, financially, and soon after Mr. Nies sold his interest, the paper was sold under foreclosure. Mr. Nies says that

from his notes and debts, which accumulated during these nine months, he finally realized "a jack-knife, three books and a rubber ball."

Thence he went to Wells, Minn., where he had charge of the Wells *Atlas* for six months. The next office in which Mr. Nies was employed was that of the Nora Springs *Reveille*, with which he became connected soon after it was started, in the summer of 1874. He was at first foreman in this office; but when O. H. Lyon sold the paper (which had been moved to Rockford, and was now the Rockford *Reveille*), in the fall of 1877, he became a partner of Robert Eggert in the management of that weekly. The firm of Eggert & Nies continued until May, 1878, when Mr. Nies sold his interest to Mr. Eggert, and went into the patent right business. This did not prove a fortunate investment, and in July, 1878, he bought out George H. Nichols becoming sole proprietor and editor of the Marble Rock *Weekly*.

Mr. Nies was married Sept. 4, 1875, to Elizabeth O. Knapp, a daughter of Wm. B. Knapp, of Rockford. They have been blessed with three children—Frank K. born June 6, 1876; George E., born Feb. 1, 1878, and Harriet Blanche, born Sept. 13, 1879.

Mr. Nies is an earnest Republican, politically, and freely works for that party in political campaigns, with the columns of the *Weekly*. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, and is also an Odd Fellow and a member of the Iowa Legion of Honor.

#### NORA SPRINGS TELEPHONE.

This paper was started in the spring of 1877, the first number appearing May 31. The publishers were L. J. Keyes & Co., and L. J. Keyes and W. P. Gaylord were the editors. The *Telephone* was a four page weekly, eight columns to the page, the page being 26 x 19 inches in size. The editorials and selections appeared on the first page; the locals on the fourth. The columns show a goodly supply of advertisements, mostly of different business houses in Nora Springs. The motto at the head of the sheet was "Equal to our business, but not above it," which motto appeared regularly until April 14, 1881, when it was discontinued. The following salutatory set fourth the principal on which the *Telephone* was started:

The goddess of fortune who leads men on to their destiny, has whispered in our ears, and in compliance with her mandates we find ourselves located in the thriving town of Nora Springs. We

are, in a measure, among strangers, who will intelligently judge us by our works, and upon which foundation we establish or destroy our reputation. The full force of this statement is strongly impressed upon our mind as we take up the pencil to introduce ourselves to the public in the capacity of a newspaper publisher. We shall, in our editorial labors at this place, aim to strengthen the bonds of friendship between neighbors; more strongly establish the reputation of our business men; encourage the orderly and good in their task of improving the morals of our community; take a deep interest in the educational affairs of our town and surrounding country; discountenance wrong in any form; collect and publish the current events of the day, and ever seek to elevate the high reputation Nora Springs has already established. We are not here for the purpose of "running" any person, or using any "foul" means to deprive them of the fruits of honest toil. We court peace and friendship with all mankind, believing that our short lives can be spent to better advantage than in quarreling with our neighbors. With this view we shall endeavor to exclude from the columns of the *Telephone*, so far as possible, anything of a personal character that will have a tendency to mar the harmony of friendship. We shall try to so represent Nora Springs through the columns of this paper, that people in the East who are desirous of seeking homes in the West, may be induced to settle among us and enjoy the advantages of our town and county. Our interests are here, our property is here, and we expect to make and spend our money here; to live, enjoy life and be one of the citizens. The town is fast increasing in population, and business rapidly growing; in fact, it presents more life and activity than any town we have visited west of the Mississippi. With these facts before us, we shall labor for home interests and make the *Telephone* an instrument for conveying the credit Nora Springs deserves to a great distance. Politically, we are extremely radical only when the honor and reputation of our great nation is endangered. We shall adhere to the principles of the Republican party, and yet feel it our duty to work against corruption and frauds that may be resorted to by unprincipled politicians of any party. We invite you to call at our office and get acquainted with us; our latch string is always on the outside, and the *Keyes* on the inside.

In April, 1878, Dr. S. G. Blythe purchased a half interest in the *Telephone*, after which time the names of Keyes and Blythe appeared as editors and proprietors. The paper was published regu-



larly until Jan. 5, 1882, on which date the last *Telephone* was issued. The following valedictory gives the reasons for the discontinuance of the *Telephone*, and the establishment of the *Monitor*:

This number of the *Telephone* will be the last of its publication. It only remains for its editors to say farewell to its friends and well-wishers of the past four years, and good-bye to its enemies. The former we regret to sever our relations with, for they have been most pleasant; the latter we leave without malice or ill-will, for at most our enmities have amounted to but little more than differences of opinion, which MEN ought to be able to tolerate without personal quarrels.

Our exchanges we part from with deep regret, for they have become a part of our every-day life, and we shall miss them as we would absent friends. For one and all we have kind thoughts and wish them God-speed.

The causes that led to a suspension of this publication are manifold and some of them purely personal. Two of them only shall be named, and these will suffice to prove our action.

First, we suspend publication for lack of support. As is well known by any who have experimented in this direction, the subscription list of a country paper does not amount to much in a compensative way, and in a community where tradesmen and business men do not appreciate the advantages to be derived from liberal advertising, a local paper cannot live. We have no disposition to publish a paper at a loss. Indeed, without remunerative patronage the incentive to make a paper worthy is wanting.

Second, we suspend publication because a more favorable prospect opens before us in another direction. The office will not leave Nora Springs. With added material and facilities for doing first-class work, we remain and invite those who desire job work to call and examine our facilities and prices.

On January 19 will be issued from this office the first number of the *Odd-Fellows' Monitor*, a paper which, while specially in the interest of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, will be made a good family and general newspaper. Each subscriber of the *Telephone* will receive a sample copy of the new paper, and while we do not expect an extensive local patronage, we shall be glad to welcome any of our old friends, who incline to subscribe for the *Monitor*.

And now a word further: All persons who have overpaid on the *Telephone* beyond Jan. 1, 1882, will, on application at this

office, receive every cent that is due them. All persons indebted to the *Telephone* must call and settle, or pay costs of collection.

Good-bye and farewell !

The *Monitor* is now issued regularly every Thursday, as an eight-page weekly, devoted entirely to the order of Odd Fellows. Its circulation extends to nearly every part of Iowa. In its present organization, L. J. Keyes and S. G. Blythe are the publishers ; S. G. Blythe is the editor, and Rev. B. F. Snook, of Cedar Rapids, associate editor. J. L. Wallace is also on the staff of the mechanical part of the work.

Luther J. Keyes was born in De Kalb, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 17, 1839. His parents were L. H. and E. A. (Phelps) Keyes, the former a shipbuilder by occupation. He resided in New York until 1850, when he removed to La Porte, Ind. Here he remained two years, following the trade of cabinet making, and then removed again to Sycamore, Ill. At Sycamore he resided six years, as carpenter and joiner. From thence he removed with his family to Beloit, Wis., where he remained one year. He then lived in Durand, Ill., for the next five years. Thence he removed to Waverly, Iowa, where he died, in 1871. His wife still lives, being now at Darlington, Wis., with her oldest son. Mr. and Mrs. Keyes had a family of eight children, all of whom are now living. Josiah E. lives at Darlington, Wis., and is a millwright by occupation ; has had three children. Esther M. was married to Hiram Humphrey, and lives in Minnesota ; has five children. Emily C. was married to John L. Hastings, and lives in Pecatonica, Ill. ; has four children. The fourth of the family is Luther J. The fifth, Warren W., lives at Darlington, Wisconsin ; is a carpenter by occupation, and has a wife and two children. Sarah A., the next in order, was married to Lewis Norton, and lives at Durand, Ill. ; has six children. David B., the seventh, is a farmer at Laona, Ill. ; has been married, and has two children. The youngest of the family, Frederick D., is a farmer at Davis, Ill. ; has a wife and one child.

The subject of this sketch lived with his parents until he was of age, attending the common schools of the various places in which the family resided, and the high school at La Porte, Ind. At the age of fourteen he engaged as a cabinet-worker, which he followed two years. He then worked for a time as carpenter and joiner, at Sycamore, Ill., and as painter, at Beloit, Wis.

In 1861 he enlisted at Durand, Ill., in Company C, Fifty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and served through the war. During the four years of the Rebellion he served in every important battle in which the Western army was engaged, and was under fire one hundred and twenty days. Enlisting as a private, he was steadily promoted until when mustered as a veteran, he held the rank of Second Sergeant. Shortly after re-enlistment he was promoted to the First Lieutenantcy of his company, and placed in charge of Company D, which he commanded until within three months of the close of the war. He was then appointed Quartermaster, in which capacity he served until mustered out, Aug. 24, 1865. During the time he was in command of Company D, he was recommended by his Colonel, T. J. Andres, for a Captain's commission in said company, which was refused by Governor Oglesby on the ground that he could not transfer a man from one company to another, to be the commander of the latter. The recommendation had been made in accordance with a custom of the preceding Governor, Richard Yates, to allow Colonels to recommend any promotions and distributions of officers which they deemed best for the good of the service ; but this rule Governor Oglesby did not recognize.

On returning from the war, Mr. Keyes worked at cabinet-making at Waverly, Iowa, until the fall of 1875. He then removed to Nashua, Chickasaw County, and had charge of a furniture store for some ten months. He removed next to Marble Rock, Floyd County, and established the *Marble Rock Weekly*, a sketch of which paper is given on another page. He remained at Marble Rock, with that paper, until the spring of 1877, when he again removed to Nora Springs, and established the *Nora Springs Telephone*. He has continued in the newspaper business ever since, all through the career of the *Telephone*, and is now working as hard as ever on the *Monitor*.

He was married Dec. 25, 1875, at Durand, Illinois, to Miss Esther A. Lancaster, of that place. They have no family.

Mr. Keyes is, politically, a Republican. He has always been a temperance worker, and in the spring of 1882, took a decided stand in favor of the prohibitory amendment. He is a member and a P. G. of the I. O. O. F., the A. O. U. W. and the G. A. R.

#### NORA SPRINGS ADVERTISER.

This is a lively little sheet at Nora Springs, issued every Tuesday by F. M. Hubbard. It was started in the summer of 1882,

the first number appearing July 4. The sheet is in size sixteen by twenty-two, four pages, four columns to the page. The paper has already achieved a remarkable success, and is soon to be enlarged. Mr. Hubbard is a man of energy, and whatever he takes hold of is bound to succeed.

#### THE MONTHLY GEOLOGIST.

This little sheet was started at Hampton, Franklin County, Ia., by Whitney Bros., in October, 1881. It was then nine inches long and six inches wide, four pages, two columns to the page. Three numbers were published at Hampton, and then its publication was continued at Rockford in an enlarged form. It is now four pages, three columns to the page, and each page is eleven inches by seven and a half inches. It appears about the middle of the month, and its subscribers are in such institutions as the School of Mines at Golden, Col., Iowa State University at Iowa City, and other schools in the country. The paper presents a very good appearance, and is a credit to the young men who manage it. They have a geological cabinet, and exchange specimens with all who are interested in this beautiful science.

#### FLOYD COUNTY PRESS.

In the spring of 1872 a Milwaukee job printer concluded to see what there was "beyond the Mississippi," with the double object of visiting friends and seeking a location for a newspaper. Riding or walking, for printers sometimes do ride, he reached Nashua, in Chickasaw County. Leaving there in the morning, he walked to Marble Rock, and took the cars to Nora Springs.

That day, in the latter part of May, was an eventful one, in the history of one town at least. Soon after leaving Nashua, a light, drizzling rain set in, gradually increasing, until the printer was soaking wet, and, to use his own expression, on reaching Marble Rock he "leaned against the depot to let the water drain off." At Nora Springs, with the help of a partial suit in his traveling bag, and some clothing borrowed from boarders, he was made more comfortable outwardly, and added to his inward comfort by a meal at the "Rock Grove House," while his clothing was drying beside the kitchen fire.

The next morning he "talked paper" to some of the few business men of the town, and went farther west. Returning soon after,

he found that a subscription list had been started to raise funds with which to guarantee a year's support for a paper; and he returned to Milwaukee with the understanding that he would be on hand as soon as possible, after the proper sum was pledged.

On the 18th of September, 1872, he returned to Nora Springs, built an office, 14x16 feet in size, mostly with his own hands, and in the first week of the following month issued the first paper ever printed in the town. In size it was a four-column quarto, the inside being printed by the Chicago Newspaper Union, and contained four pages of home matter. In 1874 the paper was enlarged to a six-column quarto, which size it still maintains. The motto of the paper is: "It takes Grit to run a Newspaper," and it is still published by the same party, and on the same ground as the first number.

#### NORA SPRINGS REPUBLICAN.

This paper was started in the summer of 1871 by Mr. H. J. Stalker and was printed a part of the time at Mason City and part of the time at Algona. Without means to put in a press and material, the gentleman found the patronage insufficient to meet the expenses, and abandoned the enterprise after a few months.

#### THE FLOYD COUNTY STANDARD

Was first started at Rockford, Ia., in January, 1881, by J. B. Adams, its present editor and proprietor. It is an eight-column folio. The paper and office were removed to Charles City in February, 1882, and occupy the upper floor of Mahara's Building. It has a good job office in connection.

Mr. J. B. Adams was born in Worcester, Mass., June 17, 1851; son of N. M. and Emma A. (Child) Adams, the former a native of Maine, and Mrs. Adams from Massachusetts. When our subject was one year old, his parents removed to Rockford, Ill., remaining one year. Then went to Mason City, Ia., where they still reside. Mr. Adams received his education in Iowa, having attended the university at Grinnell and the State University at Iowa City. He was married in November, 1872, to Miss V. O. Pushee, of Wisconsin. Politically, he is a Democrat, and his paper is conducted on the principles of that party.

## WESTERN PATRIARCH.

This paper made its appearance at Charles City, Oct. 9, 1873, under the management of C. S. Otis and S. P. Leland. The latter sold out to Charles McDonnell, and Mr. Ottis suddenly and mysteriously disappeared, and the paper fell into the hands of A. P. Holmes, who in turn sold to John Bradley. It was a handsome six-column folio, edited with fair ability, in the interest of the Odd Fellow's order. Its existence lasted but a few years.



## CHAPTER XV.

### EMINENT DEAD.

Some account of the most noted citizens of this county, who are now deceased, will be expected in this volume. The most of such are noticed in other parts of the work, especially in the chapter entitled "The Courts and the Bar;" others, whose sketches could not well be otherwise classified in this volume, we give some account of in this chapter.

HON. W. P. GAYLORD.

The ancestors of the Gaylord family originated in Normandy, France. The first name appears in Johnville's memoirs of Louis IX, in the thirteenth century. Some of the Gaylords moved to England in 1550 or '51. William Gaylord was a native of Exeter, England, and came to Massachusetts in the ship "Mary and John," arriving in Boston Bay, May 30, 1630, and settled in Dorchester. He died in 1673. Then followed four generations, thus: Walter, Joseph, Joseph, Jr., and Samuel, W. P.'s great-grandfather, born in 1709, who had a son Agur, a grand-father born 1730, died 1818, aged 88 years, and who settled in Norfolk, Conn. His brothers and sisters were Justus, Anna Mamre, Joseph, Thankful, Samuel, Timothy, Giles, and Esther.

Agur Gaylord had two wives, had two daughters by his first wife, and then married a widow Jerome, by whom he had three children, namely: Sarah, Esther, and Samuel. The latter was born Jan. 6, 1786, in Norfolk, Conn., and died in summer of 1861, aged 75 years. His wife's mother's maiden name was Betsey Jackson, born in Brookfield, Conn. She died in July, 1859.

Samuel Gaylord's children were eight in number, as follows: Jane, Lyman, J. Jay, Wilberforce P., Edson, Jackson, Harriet and Johnson. Deaths—Harriet, Jane, Wilberforce.

W. P. Gaylord was born in New Milford, Conn. Sarah Elizabeth, his wife, was born in Stillwater, New Jersey. Their children were as follows: Buena Vista, born Jan. 9, 1847, in Sussex County, N. J., died Sept. 25, 1849, in Green, N. J.; Mary E., born Feb. 18, 1850, in Green, N. J., died Sept. 29, 1871, in Nora

Springs; Harriet Aurelia, born Dec. 25, 1853, in Frelinghuysen, N. J. Buena Vista 2d, born Feb. 22, 1856, in Rock Grove, Ia. Laura A., born July 23, 1858, in Rock Grove, Ia, died Jan. 15, 1865, in Rock Grove. George, born Feb. 25, 1861, in Rock Grove; Chloe Irena, born Feb. 21, 1863, in Rock Grove. Jennie Bell, born Aug. 19, 1865, in Nora Springs. Minnie Elizabeth, born June 27, 1869, near Nora Springs.

Mrs. W. P. Gaylord's father's name was Joseph Slater, born in Sussex County, N. J., September, 1803, and died March 1, 1869. Her mother's maiden name was Eliza Primrose. They had five children—Harriet, died Dec. 2, 1877; Sarah E.; James Britten; George A., died July, 1869; Sylvesta J.

In the spring of 1854 he came to Floyd County stayed until early in the fall when he went to Wisconsin, returning again in about a year. December 5, 1855, he was joined by his wife and family, whom he had left in New Jersey, and who came to share with him his Western home, and the vicissitudes of pioneer life in the wild region of Northern Iowa.

He located on the Shell Rock, near where Nora Springs now stands. Soon after settling there he commenced the practice of law, and was admitted to the bar at Mason City about the time of the organization of Cerro Gordo County. He was always a prominent actor in nearly all the history of the county. Being a man of great activity and perseverance, he was ever one of the foremost men in all matters affecting his county and its welfare. During the early days of the county a very bitter county-seat war was waged between the east and west sides. Prominent among the leaders was Mr. Gaylord in the interest of the west side. After they had gained the victory, a celebration of the event was held at the geographical center of the county, to rejoice over the event. The speech of congratulation by Mr. Gaylord was one of the wittiest and best of his life. So good-humored and jolly was the speech that it tended largely to disarm those of the other side.

Mr. Gaylord, in his business life and relations, held a high position. In social life he was always the center of admiring friends.

In many respects he was peculiar and odd, and yet in all his composition and nature he was the type of a true man. Noble-hearted and kind in his nature. Beneath his everyday life lay a substratum of good humor and love of jollity that bubbled out in all his writings and conversation. He was a good judge of human nature, and always formed an opinion of a person at the first meet-



ing. Last winter, while discussing physiognomy, he remarked that he rarely had occasion to change first impressions of a person. His firmness, when he believed he was right, amounted almost to dogmatism, and yet no man was more ready to yield to the proof of a fallacious position.

He was elected a member of the Eleventh General Assembly for Floyd and Cerro Gordo counties, and of the Twelfth for Floyd—the Eleventh Assembly, re-districting the State, severing Cerro Gordo and Floyd counties. Of the Thirteenth General Assembly he was enrolling clerk. For several years he was Postmaster at Nora Springs, resigning the office to accept the position of State Senator for the Forty-sixth District in the Eighteenth General Assembly, where he served one session, with great credit. The bills which he originated and sustained to a passage, and the position which he promptly took on the woman suffrage question made his name familiar throughout the State, and the strictures of his brethren of the press on the latter point were boldly and ably met, and in a tone which promised animated discussion had he lived to again meet that subject in the Senate. At the re-assembling of the Senate, resolutions of respect and condolence, in honor of his sterling merits, were offered by Senator Wholey, as follows:

“*Resolved*, That this preamble and resolutions be spread upon the journal; that the secretary of the Senate be, and is hereby, directed to forward a copy of the same to the family of the deceased; and

“*Resolved*, as a further mark of respect to the deceased Senator, the Senate do now adjourn.”

In all assemblies or gatherings, when present, he would draw about him throngs of eager listeners to his fund of stories and anecdotes. Among his neighbors, he was a leader who was ever regarded as a safe counselor in matters of law, business, public policy and politics. For the past ten years, he has been connected with the newspapers of his county, either as editor or proprietor. For the past three or four years, he occupied the position of editor of the Nora Springs *Telephone*, not for a salary or pay, but because he loved the work. His pen was racy, spicy and vigorous. When he applied the lash to an opponent, there was always a sting to it, and yet so tempered with good nature that he rarely made an enemy of his adversary. He was also correspondent for the *Advocate*, and *Intelligencer*, of Charles City, the *Rockford Reveille* and other papers. In style he was easy and direct. Fear-

less in his criticism, severe in his denunciation, but always fair and just as to the rights of persons—always condemning wrong and applauding right.

It is not known at exactly what date Mr. Gaylord conceived the idea of publishing a history of Floyd County, but it is certain that he had for ten or twelve years previous to his death been interested in the early history of the county, and that he spent much of his leisure time during these years on the work. He also wrote many detached sketches, some of which were published. October 16, 1874, he announced through the columns of the *Reveille*, of which he was then editor, that in the next issue he would begin the publication of a history of Floyd County. He did so, giving a brief sketch of Rock Grove Township, and then a sketch of the early settlers of the township. His history ran along through eight or ten numbers, but included only matter pertaining to that one township. He was dissuaded from publishing any more in the papers, on the ground that it would be better arranged, and more highly prized, if he would give his whole energies to completing the history, and then have it published in book form.

Mr. Gaylord was always frank in avowing his opinion upon mooted questions, even at the risk of losing in popularity. In regard to his religious views, he was equally honest; and, however much others may differ from him, they must credit him with being perfectly conscientious in his belief. To show his stand on certain points, the following is condensed from an editorial in the *Nora Springs Reveille*, Sept. 11, 1874, at which time Mr. Gaylord was connected with that paper as editor:

“Last Sunday morning and evening, we heard two most extraordinary and impressive sermons, from Rev. H. W. Bennett, of the M. E. church. In the morning he welshed and whaled the church members over the head with the gospel cudgel, till there was not a spot as big as one's hand, where a blow had not fallen. We should suppose that the members and backsliders would after a while learn to dodge the blows aimed at their heads; but probably each for himself thinks the language used applied to the others, and probably each to himself says: ‘How Brother Bennett gives it to the hypocrites and backsliders over in the other corner of the house.’

“But none of these admonitory thunderbolts are ever aimed at our heads. We don't belong to that class of sinners spoken of in the words of the text. It is our neighbor. It is that old gray-

headed sinner over in the corner ; that woman over yonder with pendants swinging in her ears, and streamers flying from her bonnet.

"From all the preaching we have heard from our boyhood, we conclude that 'faith' is an essential article to have, and we sometimes wish we had it in larger quantities. We are willing to believe everything for the sake of eternal happiness, but we find it very difficult to believe anything of which our judgment is not convinced. We may shut our eyes and wish it were so ; we may even say we believe it is so ; and yet there is something that silently says to us, 'I doubt it.' We would give all the old clothes we have, and divide the new ones with any one who will instruct us how to believe whatever we desire to believe. It matters but little whether what we would believe is true or false, so long as it brings peace and contentment. That is what we are after. To be a hypocrite we cannot. To say we believe what does not seem to us to be true, we cannot. To pray when we have no faith that our prayers will be answered, we cannot. The future to us is still a mystery. We wish it were otherwise, even were it a delusion."

Another extract from Gaylord's writings, showing his religious position, is taken from the *Telephone*:

"We would not give a dollar to better know that there is a God; a supreme ruler; a designer; a God infinite in power, and wisdom, and goodness, and perfection, for we believe that now; but we *will* give one hundred dollars to any one who will convince us that there is or is not an individual hereafter for man; a hereafter where we shall know ourselves as we know each other here. To accomplish this, we are willing to read any reasonable amount of books, and listen to any argument in or out of the pulpit. We want to believe this, and have tried to believe it from our childhood, but our faith does not grow stronger with our years, and we cannot avoid it. However, we advise others who can, to so believe and act as though they were in earnest. This saying that we believe there is a God, a devil, or a legion of devils, a heaven and a hell, and then *acting* as though there were neither, will bring remorse sooner or later. When we are true to ourselves and our neighbors we shall be true to God."

He frequently discussed death and the future. Often did he say that the only thing he feared or dreaded was death. The future was a mystery to him, one of which he could not form a satisfactory opinion. His idea was that God is a part of man and man

is a part of God. So closely connected that neither can get along without the other. He was a very decided believer in the pre-existence of man and at death he will return to his former habitation of the realms of God.

His death was almost instantaneous and probably painless. In the quietude of his home and the bosom of his family the dread angel, who must sooner or later visit all mankind, came unannounced and unheralded. He was in robust health up to the very moment of his decease. In the midst of the strength and vigor of manhood, and in the rapid development of an onward and upward career, was he cut down.

On that day of his death, in his usual off-hand, friendly manner, he was meeting his associates, throwing a jest at one, wrestling with another, and exhibiting a vitality unequaled by most men.

During the evening he was as well as usual, and at about half past nine o'clock retired for the night. In fifteen or twenty minutes Mrs. Gaylord also retired. Soon after getting into bed she discovered that something unusual was the matter with Mr Gaylord. Before she could procure a light and call for help, he was dead. An autopsy on the body by Drs. S. G., and T. D. Blythe showed that the cause of death was heart disease.

Senator Gaylord was a self-made man, he was of the people, with the people and for the people in every enterprise, improvement and measure. His record we are not writing for the benefit of the living; it is engraved on the hearts and memories of all his fellow citizens. Like every public and prominent man, he had his friends, and he had his opposers—the latter on political grounds. To the former he was ever faithful, and the latter he fearlessly, and generally successfully, met.

A New Englander by birth, he was of that stock from whose loins came the sturdy race who are the natural frontiersmen. As has been fitly said by Senator Hoar, the eminent statesman from Massachusetts, on a recent occasion: "It is no race of boors that has struck its axes into the forests of this continent. These men knew how to build themselves log houses in the wilderness; they were more skilled still in building constitutions and framing statutes; slow, cautious, conservative, sluggish, unready in ordinary life; their brains more quick, and as sure as their rifle's flash, when great controversies that determine the fate of States are to be decided, when great interests that brook no delay are at stake, and great battles that admit no indecision are to be fought."

As a pioneer he understood all the hardships of a frontier life, but his rugged honesty and close application to business, enabled him to cultivate his mind and qualify himself for the various walks of life. We find the language of another extolling the merits of one most lamented citizen: "It is one of the most beneficent results of our American institutions, that we have ceased to speak of poverty and hardships, and the necessity for hard and humble toil, as disadvantages to a spirit endowed by nature with a capacity for generous ambition. When labor is honorable and where every place in social or public life is open to merit, early poverty is no more a disadvantage, than a gymnasium to an athlete, or drill and discipline to a soldier."

All he had was the fruit of his own labors, and the result of untiring industry and honorable frugality practiced through a busy life. He had a good farm and a pleasant home that he had put in excellent shape in which to enjoy his declining years. But such was not to be his pleasure. And as we write we are reminded of the frailty and weakness of even the strongest and the wisest. Life is indeed a panorama; men are the flitting object, death is the end of the scene, and eternity the great circle to which all feet are hastening.

We can close our sketch of Wilberforce P. Gaylord with no more appropriate and merited words than were uttered by Senator Waley preparatory to his offering resolutions of condolence and respect at the second session of the Eighteenth General Assembly at Des Moines. The able Senator said:—In his death his family mourn the loss of the kindest of husbands and fathers. His friends and neighbors mourn a kind, accommodating, courteous and ever genial friend. The farmers, lawyers, and editors, each feel that they have lost a representative man from their profession and ranks. The country and district mourn the loss of one whom they have often honored. In the person of W. P. Gaylord this Senate Chamber, and the State of Iowa, have lost an able, prudent and wise legislator. His dust has returned to dust, and his spirit to the God who gave it. Though he responds to the call of the Senate roll no more, yet may we not trust his name is enrolled in the Lamb's book of life, and while we mourn our deceased friend, may we be able, when we are called from the stage of action, to feel that we have done our duty as faithfully and as well.

## COLONEL DAVID RIPLEY

Was born in the State of New York, in the year 1798; came to Gallia County, Ohio, when a young man; married in the year 1819; visited this county in 1852-'3, settling here in 1854, during which year he had the courage to follow the Indians into Minnesota alone, when nearly all other settlers were frightened out of the country. He located on or near section 12, of township 94, 17. In 1862 he visited Colorado, where he enlisted to fight the Indians and had a number of remarkable experiences. After making a short residence in this county again, he went to Missouri, then to Fremont County, this State, then to Decatur County, and finally back to Riverton Township, where he died July 26, 1881. During his life he had been a member of the Legislature both in Ohio and in Colorado, and was County Judge of Floyd during the exciting times of the great county-seat contest. His son, Sanford Ripley, whose sketch appears more in full elsewhere, resides in Riverton Township. The four daughters left by the deceased are Mrs. W. B. Carter, Mrs. James Wood, Mrs. John Allison and Mrs. Henry Allen.

## WINFIELD SCOTT RIDER,

A young man of more than ordinary promise, died at Waverly, Ia., Aug. 17, 1865, aged twenty-five years. His death resulted from injuries caused by a steamboat explosion. While the boat, "Joseph Pierce," was taking on board the Sixty-fourth U. S. Colored Infantry, Colonel Meatyard commanding, her starboard boiler exploded with terrible force, after she had been lying at the bank about half an hour, blowing away fifty feet of the center of the boat. Hundreds were blown into the river, but, strange to say, the loss of life was very small. About twenty miles below Vicksburg this catastrophe occurred, and July 31, 1865. Among the victims was Mr. Rider, who was thrown out upon the land, and seriously injured internally. He set out for home, and arriving at Waverly, was unable to travel further. His brother from Floyd went down August 15, to that place, with an easy carriage, bedding, etc., to bring him home; but he was too late, and Mr. Rider died as before stated.

His remains were taken to Floyd, where, at the Methodist chapel, the Friday following, a large concourse of people assembled to pay respect to his memory. The sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Bronson. Many citizens from Charles City attended the funeral, including the Charles City Cornet Band, and soldiers

under arms, many of them compatriots with the deceased through long years of bloody war. The coffin was richly ornamented with silver trimmings and over it was thrown the U. S. flag, that banner which in life young Rider had loved so well and had so nobly defended on many a field of battle. The burial took place under military honors.

Mr. Rider was best known to the citizens of Floyd County, as the army correspondent of the Charles City *Intelligencer*, although he had also contributed poetic compositions and articles of other description. In the war he was for some time clerk in the Quartermasters' Department at Vicksburg, Postmaster of the Sixteenth Army Corps, and enjoyed to the fullest extent the confidence and friendship of Major Gens. Sherman, Mc Pherson, Logan and others. He had a warm genial heart, full of generosity and frankness, ever grateful for favors, and overflowing with kindness toward others.

Roswell Rider, father of the deceased, sent four sons to the war: two of whom lost their lives in their country's service, and the other two were several times seriously wounded.

CHESTER BUTTERFIELD,

For many years one of the most influential men in Floyd County, and for a time Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, was a native of Vermont; and spent the middle part of his life in Lake County, Ill., near Waukegan. He came to Floyd County in the winter of 1855, settling near the village of Floyd. He was a zealous and exemplary member of the M. E. church, and some times occupied the pulpit as a preacher. Some years ago he emigrated to Kansas, where he, in the summer of 1881, attended a camp meeting, and was taken sick. He died Aug. 22, aged seventy-five years. His diseases were typhoid fever and a bowel complaint, and his sufferings were severe and protracted. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

J. W. LEHMKUHL,

A thorough business man and public-spirited citizen of Charles City, died in Bremen, Germany, Oct. 6, 1880. He was born at Delmenhorst, Oldenburg, Germany, March 20, 1830. In 1850 he came to Ohio, and in 1855 to Waverly, Ia., where he formed a partnership in business with Theodore Hullman; but in June of the same year a new partnership was formed, under the firm name of Rumpf, Lehmkuhl & Co., the senior member having been a fellow clerk with Mr. Lehmkuhl in Bremen. Mr. Lehmkuhl then

came to Charles City, and, assisted by Wm. Hausberg as clerk, built and opened a store of general merchandise on the site of the present store of Hausberg & Holbrook. Here Mr. Lehmkuhl continued in business until March, 1877, when he sold out to Mr. Hausberg. During a part of this time, he had an interest with Mr. H. in a branch store at Floyd, and also with W. Schmedes, in a store at Osage, Mitchell County. In the fall of 1877, Mr. Lehmkuhl sailed to Europe for recreation and visiting friends and interesting localities on the continent.

He was a bachelor until June, 1880, when he was married to Miss Elizabeth Grelle, of Bremen. He and his wife spent the summer in Switzerland and Italy, stopping some time at Lake Como. In September he returned to Bremen, suffering from a cold. Soon his symptoms assumed the form of gastric fever, inclining to typhoid fever, from which he did not rally, but died at the home of his sister, in Bremen.

Mr. Lehmkuhl was prominently identified with many of the liberal and philanthropic enterprises of Charles City and vicinity, and his death caused a very large community to mourn.

NATHAN H. PALMER, M. D.,

Was born in Vermont, in 1797. He graduated from a "York State" medical college when in his twenty-seventh year, and up to the date of his death practiced in his profession the greater portion of the time. For several years he lived in Ohio, moving from there to Rockford, Ill., then a new settlement. In the fall of 1854, he came to Charles City. He married, for his first wife, Samantha Blair, Nov. 17, 1825. Their children were Margaret (now Mrs. Milo Gilbert), Martha and Mary. His first wife died in January, 1835. He married, for his second wife, Miranda F. Isbell, Nov. 19, 1835. Their children were named Melinda, Amanda, Elston A., Miranda and Olive. But two are living to-day—Elston A. and Melinda, the latter having the honor of having taught the first school in Floyd County. His second wife died April 8, 1848. For his third wife, Mr. Palmer married Deborah Rhodes, April 29, 1849. By this wife he had one child, named Ellen.

DR. E. J. WILLIAMS

Was a resident of Charles City from 1870 until the time of his death in February, 1881, at the age of sixty-seven. He was a man of great intellect, high honor and thoroughly devoted to his profession. He was also a zealous member of the Masonic order.



## CHAPTER XVI.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

In this chapter we place those accounts which are too brief to make full chapters separately; and the material afforded us by the history of this county results in giving us for miscellany, first, the Temperance cause, Celebrations, Marriages, Postoffices and routes, Bridges, Miscellaneous organizations, Anecdotal, etc.

### TEMPERANCE.

The citizens of Floyd County have been as active in the cause of temperance as those of any other part of the State, if not of the West. While every one advocates "temperance," one class are in favor of prohibitory law, and the other opposed. The prohibitionists do not regard moderate drinkers as thorough enough in their temperance principles. It is not temperance in the sense of moderation that the temperance party is working for, but *total abstinence*—from a poison that may enslave. Hence a continual warfare between the two classes, especially in the villages, where the moderate drinkers and their license friends are always more numerous. We are careful in our wording of the phrase "moderate drinkers and their license friends," who are all "license" men, while real drunkards are as apt to be prohibitionists as license men.

This county was not in existence in the early days of the "Washingtonian" movement, the Sons of Temperance and the Good Templars, though each of these in later times have had a history in Floyd County.

During the winter of 1856-'7, a Washingtonian pledge was circulated through the village of St. Charles, and about 150 persons signed it. The "St. Charles Temperance Association" was soon organized, with constitution, by-laws and officers, to aid in enforcing the State law. This presentation of a formidable front so quelled the devotees of darkness that little remained to be done in the way of prosecution.

In 1858 temperance meetings were revived, earnest pleas made both in public and private, pledges circulated, etc. About this

time the Order of Good Templars established societies in this county, which flourished for years afterward.

By way of anecdote we may relate here that during the summer of 1859, a man in St. Charles City joined the Good Templars, determined that his wife should know nothing about it. He was quietly admitted and the night fixed for his initiation. So far, so good. But his wife suspected something of the kind going on, and contrived a pleasant sort of surprise for him. He kept "mum," and she kept "mum-er,"—he happy in blissful ignorance of his wife's knowledge, and she "laughing in her sleeves" to think how easy men are cheated. The expected evening came, and our hero presented himself at the ante-room and was admitted. His astonishment can better be imagined than described when the first voice to welcome him was that of his "own dear and thrice happy wife!"

The initiatory movements already mentioned are only representative of the temperance work which followed in this county until 1874, when the temperance "crusade," as it was called, which originated in Ohio that year, struck this community, and shortly afterward organizations were effected among the women, auxiliary to the State and National "Woman's Christian Temperance Union." The one in Charles City edited a temperance column in the *Intelligencer*, where they made pretty lively reading under what to the license people seemed a very dull heading. Although this movement commenced, as new parties always do, with considerable noise and public demonstration, it soon quietly solidified down into beautiful crystals, thus becoming permanent and therefore effective against the enduring appetites of weak men. How much the late prohibition victory in Iowa is due to their quiet work, no one can tell.

The next and the last great temperance wave, which rolled over Floyd County, is, for short, called the "Amendment" move, being an effort to incorporate into the organic law of the State a section prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. This wave, which ultimately covered the State and proved victorious at the polls, was greatly aided by the Charles City Postmaster, B. F. Wright. When Mrs. J. Ellen Foster was lecturing on temperance in this place in 1879, Mr. Wright proposed that all the temperance efforts in the State unite on a movement to place a prohibitory clause in the Constitution. She at first thought it was too soon to inaugurate such a measure, but some time subsequently she changed her mind, and joined the move-

ment. Further particulars may be found in the biographical sketch of Mr. Wright, in the history of Charles City, on a subsequent page. We make here one extract from his argument:

"The public policy of prohibiting saloons receives its strongest argument of opposition in the assertion that it will injure the commerce of a town or State. Is it not singular, indeed, that men who are skilled in all the craft and drive of trade should believe that a traffic which simply steals away the muscle and brain of men, can contribute to that market out of which honest profits are gleaned; increase the physical endurance and prowess of an army by impoverishing its health, breaking a large percentage of its legs and arms; increase the trade of a town by upholding a business, which results, year by year, in crippling every man who is its patron, and makes their families public beggars!"

The license party claim that while prohibition harasses the legitimate liberty which every one should enjoy, it does not prevent drunkenness, and that prohibitory laws prevent the immigration of Germans and others who are good citizens.

In the winter of 1878-'9, a large and strong temperance organization was effected in Charles City under the name of the "Tribe of Jonathan," with an elaborate constitution, by-laws and many signatures to the same. This organization is said to have been started by Captain Curtis, of Waterloo, Ia. Under the auspices of the "Tribe," branch organizations were formed in this and adjoining counties, mass meetings held, and much efficient aid rendered to the cause of temperance. A small periodical campaign sheet was started in the winter of 1880-'1 of four twelve-inch columns, and edited by Mr. Wright. It was named "The Amendment."

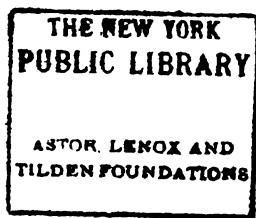
On the other hand the license men formed a few organizations, and worked against the amendment. In Charles City, for example, the *Deutscher Maassigkeitsverein* (German Temperance Union) was organized; also in the spring of 1881, with constitution, by-laws and officers, to work against the proposed amendment.

The following is the wording of the amendment.

SECTION 26. No person shall manufacture for sale, sell or keep for sale as a beverage, any intoxicating liquors whatever, including ale, wine and beer. The General Assembly shall, by law, prescribe regulations for the enforcement of the provisions herein contained, and shall thereby provide suitable penalties for violations of the provisions thereof.



*C. H. Oakes*



The vote on the above was taken on the 27th of June, 1882, with the following result in Floyd County:

Township.	For.	Against.
St. Charles.....	865	448
Floyd.....	148	77
Ulster.....	88	65
Niles.....	87	127
Pleasant Grove.....	50	65
Rudd.....	70	75
Rock Grove.....	93	181
Union.....	181	194
Scott.....	42	78
Rockford.....	159	144
Riverton.....	121	64
Cedar.....	79	19
	<hr/> 1,873	<hr/> 1,457

Majority against the amendment, 84.

The majority in the State, however, was about 30,000 in favor of the amendment, and the victory was celebrated in public meetings, where speeches were made, etc. A grand celebration of this kind was held in the public park in Charles City on the 14th of July.

#### CELEBRATIONS.

The people of Floyd County are eminently social and have always had great respect for days made prominent in history by a great and good act. This regard they have shown by holding appropriate exercises, which have generally been well and peaceably attended. We arrange here the most prominent of them chronologically.

The 4th of July celebration in St. Charles City, in 1857, passed off quietly and pleasantly, excepting a single accident. The weather was remarkably fine. At noon the people assembled in the grove above the Square, where the Declaration was read by W. B. Fairfield, of St. Charles, and an oration delivered by D. W. Poindexter, of Mitchell, succeeded by remarks from Moses Conger, of Floyd, and Mr. Fairfield. Dinner was enjoyed at the St. Charles Hotel. Sociability was extended and cultivated, and in the evening were fire-works, and a ball. The accident referred to happened to John Hill, who resided about two miles above town. He charged the eye of a sledge hammer, piled anvils upon it, and applied a match, when the hammer burst and carried away the most of his leg. The accident cast a gloom over the people the rest of the day.

July 4, 1858, a splendid celebration in St. Charles City, Floyd, and other places. In St. Charles a grotesque procession was made by the "St. Charles Invincibles," who closed their part of the day's programme with a mock oration at the public square. The speech contained many good hits, and created much merriment. The St. Charles Cavalry were early on the ground, and with their neat and tasteful uniforms, noble horses and good discipline, presented a fine appearance. Major D. Allen was the orator of the day, who surpassed all expectations. I. W. Card read the Declaration of Independence. Eighteen toasts were introduced and responded to, and the day was unmarred by accident. E. P. Harrington made an exhibition, in the Cedar River, of the celebrated "Diver," a sort of armor to be used in diving into water.

Similar programmes were carried out at the other places. At the "geographical center," of the county, on this day, a grand celebration was had by the friends of the removal of the county seat to that place, who had just carried the county in favor of their proposition, by a majority of nineteen. A full account of this is given in Chapter III.

The Good Templars took the lead in celebrating upon the 4th of July, 1860, in St. Charles City. The day was beautiful, and the attendance large. Early in the morning, the stars and stripes were floating from many a flag staff and edifice, and at the appointed hour the marshals, mounted on beautifully caparisoned horses, formed a procession in the following order: Music; citizens generally, both ladies and gentlemen; Worthy Master and Worthy Deputy Master; male initiates; female initiates; banner; male degree members; female degree members; officers of the lodge; officers of the grand lodge; vice-presidents of the day; reader and chaplain; president and orator. The procession was a long one, and presented a gay and lively appearance. A large number of banners were borne in the procession, several of which were rich and elegant, and had various appropriate mottoes and devices. A procession so attractive and imposing had never before been seen in Floyd County, possibly in the State.

On arriving at the grove, a scene of beauty and enchantment burst upon the vision, due in most part to the skill of woman's fairy hand. The grounds were arranged in the order of a lodge room, and were well furnished and ornamented. At this place the order of exercises were: Martial music; prayer, by the Chaplain, Rev. A. D. Bush; singing, by the entire audience; the

opening ode of the Good Templars, "Friends of Temperance, welcome here," to the tune, "Watchman, tell us of the night;" reading of the Declaration of Independence, by James Jackson; the national hymn, "America," by the entire audience; oration, by John G. Patterson; martial music; temperance addresses, by J. Q. Detwiler; sentiments by A. B. F. Hildreth, and responses by the audience as follows.

1. *The Day we Celebrate*: Glorious in the past, honored in the present, may its luster brighten in the future. Response by James Jackson.

2. *The Memory of our Revolutionary Fathers*: Let it be enbalméd in the hearts of posterity. A silent response.

3. *Washington*: God caused him to be childless that a nation might call him father. Response by L. L. Huntley singing the song entitled "The Death Bed of Washington," and performing an accompaniment upon the seraphine.

4. *The Presidency of the United States*: The noblest office in the world; its occupant should be one of the noblest of men. Response by Dr. J. W. Smith.

5. *The Order of Good Templars*: An invading "cold water army," at whose command the hosts of King Alcohol ever surrender at discretion. Response by J. G. Patterson.

6. *The Ladies*: Gentle, patient, affectionate and ever zealous in a good cause; without them our men would be savages and our prairies deserts. Response by Dr. E. Cortright.

7. *The Musicians*: Without the harmonious strains the celebration could not go on. Response by Mr. Huntley, singing a comic song.

8. *Our Common Schools*: Caskets containing the jewels of our country; we expect the teachers, as artisans, will see that they are rightly set. Response by Mr. Wilbur, the County Superintendent.

9. *The Farmer*: One of nature's noblemen. Response by Gen. Wilson, of Des Moines, Secretary of the Agricultural College and Farm.

10. *The Clergy*: Patient defenders of the Cross; may their reward be "manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting." Responded to by Rev. A. D. Bush.

11. *St. Charles Lodge, No. 62, I. O. of G. T.*: A moral reformer whose services are invaluable. Responded to by G. B. Eastman, W. C. T. of the lodge.



12. *The Benevolent Societies of the Day*: Their "secrecy" is the tie that unites their members in the work of social reform. Response by E. A. Teeling.

13. *Manual Labor*: The stepping stone to virtue, health, happiness and independence. B. F. Cheney responded.

14. *Iowa, the Home of our Adoption*: May she, like Cornelia, point to her sons and say, "These are my jewels." Reply by I. W. Card.

15. *The Officers of the Day*: Well have they discharged their duties, and the thanks of the audience are theirs. Response by Judge Wiltse, President of the Day.

After listening to martial music, the closing ode of the order was sung,—“Heavenly Father give thy blessing,”—to the air, “*Sicilian Hymn*.”

The marshals then formed a procession of nearly all who were upon the ground and conducted them to the lodge hall, whence the people dispersed for dinner.

No accident or blunder occurred to mar the perfection of the day and every person went home happy.

Dec. 27, 1860 (St. John's Day), was celebrated by the Masonic fraternity at St. Charles City in magnificent style with music, speeches, toasts and supper. A full report was given in the *Intelligencer*, occupying five columns of its issue of Jan. 3. 1861.

July 4, 1861, celebrations of independence at St. Charles City, Floyd, Rock Grove, Nashua, etc., all of which passed off creditably and satisfactorily. Much emphasis was, of course, laid upon the duties of the hour, mingled with fears and hopes concerning the future of the nation.

July 4, 1863, the grandest celebration ever before known in this part of Iowa, notwithstanding the great burdens of the war. It was estimated that 4,000 people were present in Charles City. D. M. Ferguson was Marshal of the day, and, with an impromptu horse company under command of Rev. E. G. O. Groat, accompanied with music, escorted the several delegations into town. A full order of exercises was carried out. J. G. Patterson read the Declaration of Independence, and Rev. J. G. Witted delivered the oration. There were also a magnificent dinner, spirited songs, toasts of loyalty and patriotism, etc. Hervey Wilbur read a long but interesting response to the toast, “The President's Proclamation of Emancipation, and the Year 1863,—the Edict, and the Year of Jubilee to the Bondmen of America.”

July 4, 1865, a grand and successful celebration. The war ended, and the Union saved, the people felt as if they had a glorious nation to shout for. Hon. Wm. B. Fairfield was President of the day; Capt. R. G. Reiniger, Marshal; J. Cheston Whitney, Reader of the Declaration of Independence, and H. O. Pratt, Orator. Music, toasts, etc., added to the interest of the beautiful day.

July 4, 1866, at St. Charles City, a successful and satisfactory celebration, winding up with a grand ball in the evening, at Holcomb's Union Hall. There was also a splendid celebration at Floyd, at which place, after sundown, was a parade of the "Ante diluvians."

July 4, 1867, was celebrated in a lively manner, at Floyd and Marble Rock. At Charles City there was no formal, public programme, except a church picnic, but at two o'clock in the morning the "boys" created a great fire alarm by a big bonfire on the public square. Half attired, the citizens commenced running, with buckets, etc., in hand, and were much disgusted when the boys revealed the true state of the affairs by their loud huzzas. In the morning, the streets were found barricaded with vehicles, farm machinery, etc.

Decoration day, 1868, was observed in magnificent style. The weather was fine, and many were in attendance. This day is generally observed in Floyd County.

*The Centennial.* U. S. Grant, the President of the United States, having recommended that the history of the townships and counties in the Union be written and read on this, the centennial 4th day of July, 1876, and his Excellency, Samuel J. Kirkwood, having indorsed that recommendation, the people of Floyd County, irrespective of locality, creeds or party, forgetting the rivalries of the past, assembled at Charles City on that day, to again pledge their fealty to the strong and generous Government, which they protect, and by which they are protected. The Hon. John G. Patterson, a radical Republican and prominent attorney, of Charles City, presided over the assemblage. J. Strong Root, Esq., a radical Democrat and prominent attorney, of the same place, delivered an eloquent oration. W. H. Gaylord, of Nora Springs, read a condensed history of Floyd County. The cornet band of Nora Springs, consisting of thirteen members, under the leadership of Professor Israel Turner, together with promiscuous martial bands, furnished the music, enlivening and grand. The

Rev. A. Miner, of Charles City, prayed for the future life and enduring prosperity of the Nation, and all true men and women everywhere, regardless of party or persuasion, will cheerfully respond, Amen.

July 4, 1882, was made prominent by the prohibitionists, who celebrated their great victory at the polls throughout the State, in favor of the late Constitutional amendment.

#### MARRIAGES.

For the first five years after men and women began to marry in Floyd County, the following licenses were issued by the recorder.

1855.—Feb. 6, Wesley Ames and Delilah Castleman; Feb. 21, Marvin L. Heath, Lucy A. Smith.

March 3, Chauncey Lyard, Florilla Morris; March 30, Wm. H. Welch, Susan Border.

May 7, Henry F. Rice, Mary A. Cook; Charles S. Stevens, Permelia Greenwood; May 23, Henry Green, Lydia Blunt.

June 2, Jacob Beeler, Huldah J. Downer; June 28, Charles Lutes, Martha Ann Long.

July 3, Lester Place, Carolina L. Wright; July 7, Sanders M. Howard, Frances P. Bennett; July 12, Peter Parish, Harriet Blanchard; July 23, Pyton Brentner, Eliza Ann Harvey.

Sept. 8, Joseph Wright.

Nov. 3, Ambrose Baker, Catharine E. Little; Nov. 9, Samuel Niverson, Elizabeth Rolfe; Nov. 28, Jacob Johnson, Susan Cochran.

1856.—Jan. 9, Isaiah M. Rogers, Elizabeth Strawn.

March 19, C. T. Ferris, Harriet McKinley.

April 3, Wm. R. Cave, Floretta Goodhue; April 28, Luke Johnson, Nancy Baltimore.

May 4, Sidney S. Smith, Margaretta T. Horr; May 20, Edwin Klinetop, Emma Bassett; May 24, James D. Gilpin, Mary Jane Hogan.

June 5, E. Lynn, E. Roscile Scott; June 16, Jerome McKinley, Mary A. Hart; June 26, Samuel Hayes, Lucy Jane Young; Wm. Dean, Harriet A. Gaylord; June 28, Wilbur Closson, Lucretia Johnson.

July 1, Amos McKinley, Catharine Johnston; July 1, John W. Buckley, Azubah E. Holbrook.

Aug. 4, Samuel M. Goldsburg, Rachel Jane Wells.

Oct. 6, Richard H. Jones, Caroline Hubbard; Oct. 13, J. Taylor, Sally Spafford; Oct. 20, Charles H. Towner, Louisa Bennett; Oct. 30, Sylvester Rice, Mary Ann Henry.

Nov. 10, Alex. Gale, Viola Lyon; Nov. 22, Joshua A. Ripley, Huldah S. Sutton.

Dec. 6, Christian Kuhn, Anna Bloom; Dec. 17, Levi Shepard, Jr., Mary E. Johnson.

1857.—Jan. 15, James H. Pitcher, Frances L. Dutcher.

Feb. 4, Abram R. Foster, Amelia Free, Samuel Sours, Anna M. Rex; Feb. 11, Egbert Davis, Fanny M. Ackley; Feb. 17, George Collett, Emily Balch; W. A. L. Dayton, Elizabeth Chatman; Feb. 18, John C. Holland, Melinda A. Palmer.

March 5, John Taylor, Lovey Ann Hudson; March 11, Nathan A. Palmer, Jane L. Holland; March 20, Zeiba E. Jackson, Melinda Carr; March 26, Egbert Sandford, Lydia Allison.

April 8, James M. Cooper, Sarah A. Womsley; April 15, Wilder Rutherford, Eleanora Hotchkiss; April 18, George F. Hubbard, Vienna Burroughs; April 22, Israel W. Snyder, Reggirma Carsner; April 27, Samuel Riddill, Sarah J. Griffith; April 28, James Bernham, Louisa Paddock; April 30, George Robertson, Charlotte Brooks.

May 13, Wm. Bunny, Sarah Cassaday.

June 11, Ira Harrison, E. Louisa J. Dean; June 17, Joseph Looley, Ursula Hunter; June 24, Calvin B. Douglass, Nancy V. Underwood; June 30, Sidney D. Skelton, Mary Bell.

July 25, George Hank, Louisa Scott; Josiah G. Quimby, Edith Knouse; A. D. Babcock, Sarah E. Biglow.

Aug. 10, Geo. W. Bensley, Eliza I. Smith; Aug. 11, Wm. Wagner, Elizabeth Rex; Aug. 13, Seth Terry, Laura Coon; Aug. 15, Wm. W. Dickman, Jemima J. Workman; Aug. 19, Hiram Smothers, Sarah E. Cooper; Aug. 26, George N. Johnson, Anna Brooks; Aug. 31, W. A. Austin, Lucinda A. Butterfield; Silas Stewart, Martha M. Niles.

Sept. 3, Jos. P. Cook, Mary M. Story; Sept. 12, James Tatum, Jr., Lucinda Hazzard; Sept. 16, Henry Green, Eleanor Nitcher; Sept. 21, Lorenzo D. Gardner, Sarah A. Sherman; Sept. 23, Henry F. Allison, Lovina Dawley.

Oct. 7, Charles W. Atkinson, Anna R. Jackson; Oct. 31, John Farer, Elizabeth Hill.

Nov. 7, Wm. Henry Welch, Angeline Scott; Winfield D. Bryant, Eliza J. Walling; B. F. Russell, Rosanna M. Bryant;

Rodney S. Baker, Nancy A. Wray; Thos. W. Hemphill, Leah Knouse.

Nov. 24, Orlando McEwen, Phæbe Crowell; Nov. 27, Jeremiah Rider, Mary A. Hill.

Dec. 8, Emiri Abbott, Lamira Abbott; Dec. 14, Wm. S. Raymond, Abigail Crowell; Dec. 30, Russell Arthur, Augusta Grow; Wm. H. Coffin, Amanda E. Allen; Dec. 31, L. Henry Hunn, Harriet Patton.

1858.—Jan. 9, Maurice S. Cole, Mary A. Ingram; Jan. 11, John M. Parsons, Harriet M. Condill; Jan. 21, Peter Warburton, Mary Cassady.

Feb. 16, Ransom Knapp, Mary Dunham; Feb. 25, Jacob Bassett, Mary A. Jolly; Jan. 26, John S. Lefever, Florilla Brayton.

April 7, Joel Johnson, Mary Powers; April 15, John D. Yoder, Malvina Lyon.

May 5, Samuel Mitchell, Mary Tague; J. V. W. Montague, Martha Jackson.

June 9, H. I. Miller, ———; June 12, Seth Richardson, Catherine Defield.

Aug. 2, Matthias Cramer, Catherine Snick; Aug. 7, Philip Moore, Sarah Richardson; Aug. 24, James M. Newton, Francis P. Howard; Aug. 21, H. O. H. Vinton, Maria E. Hedges.

Sept. 1, Valentine Bogle, Malinda Searls; Sept. 13, Hiram F. Lambert, Harriet Greenwood.

Oct. 6, Barney Corby Numday; Sept. 13, Franklin F. Thomas, Mary Mansfield; Oct. 23, Henry Bumgardner, Ruth Ann Yoder; John McHenry, Sarah C. Yoder.

Nov. 9, James Morrison, Jane Shaw; Giles W. Mead, Caroline Powers.

Dec. 13, Jasper Gregory, Effa Ann Powers; Dec. 18, George Harshey, Susan Ball; Dec. 22, A. M. Slutter, Lyndia E. French; Dec. 30, Hiram S. Smith, Ruth A. Raymond.

1859.—Jan. 10, Hugh O'Donnell, Elizabeth Carrell; Jan. 10, Jackson Wood, Helen L. Taylor.

April 1, Geo. W. Stannard, Elizabeth Wilson; April 8, James Jackson, Mary J. Clark; April 25, Alex B. Warren, Elmira Crowell; Charles E. Biglow, Hewwira Jackson.

May 5, Daniel Perrin, Emeline P. Harrison; May 9, George C. Ball, Mary L. Cory; May 23, Daniel M. Dean, Elmira Knouse; May 25, James Choate, Esther Miller; May 27, Charles H. Hart, Sarah E. Howard.

June 14, Titus Wray, Catherine Cassady.

July 14, Nathan J. Robbins, Ruth Ann Whitney; July 22, Amos Pettit, Matilda R. Young.

Sept. 1, Hiram Losee, Phebe Smith; Sept. 5, Philip Shafer, ———; Solomon J. Askely, Emily Rex.

Oct. 14, Samuel Rex, Jane Askely; Oct. 15, Jared H. Lowder, Emeline L. Hutchins.

Nov. 17, Thompson Halsted, Antinetta Kinney.

Dec. 3, Harrison Ganett, Elizabeth E. Ready; Dec. 31, Wm. Christner, Mary Jane Halsted.

The number of marriage licenses issued for the several years from 1855 to September, 1882, inclusive, is as follows:

Year.	No.	Year.	No.	Year.	No.
1855 .....	17	1865 .....	49	1875 .....	114
1856 .....	25	1866 .....	88	1876 .....	141
1857 .....	57	1867 .....	69	1877 .....	136
1858 .....	27	1868 .....	81	1878 .....	141
1859 .....	45	1869 .....	96	1879 .....	133
1860 .....	14	1870 .....	118	1880 .....	114
1861 .....	16	1871 .....	111	1881 .....	113
1862 .....	29	1872 .....	120	1882, to Sept. 7.....	91
1863 .....	85	1873 .....	119		
1864 .....	25	1874 .....	127	Total .....	2,250

#### POSTOFFICES AND POSTAL ROUTES.

The first postoffice in the county was established in Freeman, in August, 1854, and the first postmaster was Robert L. Freeman, who kept the office in his store on lot No. 1, block G, in precisely the place where since has stood the dwelling-house of C. W. Leaman. In 1855 Freeman disposed of his interest in the mercantile business to S. C. Goddard, who then became postmaster. The same year John Blunt was appointed postmaster, who transferred the office into his store, that of Blunt & Collins, on the northeast side of the river, described elsewhere. This office retained the name of Freeman instead of St. Charles, as the latter was also the name of a postoffice in Madison County, this State. This was the first post-office northwest from Bradford, and to it people came from Mitchell and Cerro Gordo Counties, and even from Southern Minnesota. J. I. R. Frost claims to have been postmaster in Union in 1855.

During the year 1856 postal routes were established running from West Union to Freeman by way of Bradford, from Freeman to Shell Rock Falls by way of Rock Creek, and from Freeman to Mitchellville by way of Floyd, Gilmantown and Cora.

M. O. Walker, in 1856, ran a daily line of four-horse coaches from McGregor's Landing through West Union and Bradford to St. Charles, and a tri-weekly line from St. Charles to Mitchell Center. Distance from McGregor's to St. Charles, about ninety miles; fare, \$6.50; from St. Charles to Mitchell, twenty-three miles; fare, \$1.75. The stage from Dubuque intersected with this line at West Union. This contractor proved to be negligent, and a Mr. Sharpe, in 1859, commenced also to operate as mail carrier.

In October, of this year, D. D. W. Carver, of the *Intelligencer*, was appointed postmaster at St. Charles City. About this time a postoffice was established at Watertown, near the northern line of the county, in Floyd Township, but was soon discontinued in 1869, the mails for the people in that vicinity to be sent to Orchard, Mitchell County. Flood Creek postoffice was discontinued in 1861.

In the latter part of the winter of 1860-'1, a short time before Dr. Smith was appointed postmaster, many of the citizens of Charles City concluded to choose a man to present to the General Department for appointment as postmaster. Hand-bills were circulated, calling for a mass-meeting at Cheney & Brackett's Hall, March 2. In taking the vote, E. A. Teeling and R. G. Reiniger were appointed tellers, who used a hat for a ballot-box. Mr. Teeling noticed that one man deposited more than one ballot, whereupon a discussion arose which soon ended in a real row, the fistings and cuffing, for a rarity, commencing around the ballot-box (hat) at the secretary's table, and proceeding like a wild contagion toward the rear of the audience. During this *mêlée* the lights were put out, or went out. Sundry non-resistants perched on window-sills, or took points of observation in other out-of-the-way places, and looked on as witnesses. The whole situation was about as amusing as it was serious. The only declaration of the result of this "election" ever known was this: A citizen met one of the candidates next morning and said, "Good morning, Mr. ———; what was the result of the postoffice caucus last night?" "G— d— it! what's that to you, young man?" was the reply.

Concerning this meeting, the *Intelligencer* has the following:

"The impression prevailed that more or less 'packing' had been done, and there was a determination on the part of some of the citizens that that process of carrying nominations should be stopped. The meeting organized by electing Milo Gilbert for Chairman and R. G. Reiniger, Secretary. An informal ballot was ordered, and resulted as follows: D. Davidson, twenty; G. B.

Eastman, nineteen ; A. W. French, fourteen : J. V. W. Montagne, ten ; J. W. Smith, two ; E. B. C. Wright, two ; V. W. Baker, two ; S. Wiggin, one. A direct ballot was now ordered. To shut off Democrats, it was decided that none but Republicans should be allowed to vote. Soon our *late* Democratic postmaster offered his vote, and, being refused, insisted that he was a Republican,—a new convert, and a most zealous one,—and in proof he shouted ‘Hurrah for old Abe.’ His vote was received, double and treble voting was noticed, crimination and recrimination arose, and soon a half dozen quarrels were in full blast in various parts of the hall. The chairman sought in vain to keep order, and at length declared the meeting adjourned *sine die*. The hall was then cleared by putting out the lights. ”

The above instance, however, does not show that the citizens of St. Charles were any more riotous than the best of communities anywhere, but the attempt to choose postmasters by popular vote under our system of government must always lead to bitter personalities.

In September of this year (1861), the name of the postoffice at St. Charles was changed to Charles City, and the *Intelligencer* changed its heading accordingly.

Mail “facilities” having been for a long time very far from “facile,” a meeting of many of the leading citizens and business men of Charles City was held March 5, 1862, for the securing a more prompt and faithful transportation of the mails. A. B. F. Hildreth was Chairman of the meeting. For two weeks there had been no mail *via* Dubuque. The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted :

WHEREAS, Since the transfer of mail route No. 11,013 (leading from West Union *via* Nashua to Osage), from Joseph Sharpe to M. O. Walker as contractor or carrier, the mails north of Bradford have been carried in an inefficient and exceedingly irregular manner,—the drivers often changing the running days each way without authority, thus losing time and failing to connect with other mail lines ; and

WHEREAS, There has been no mail received since February 28 (although many teams have since passed daily over the route), whereby over 20,000 inhabitants, who are principally supplied through this channel with their mail matter, have been deprived of the same, to the great detriment of the business interests of this region of country ; therefore



*Resolved*, That we, together with all citizens residing together in the valley of the upper Cedar River and its tributaries, labor under serious disadvantages in the transaction of our business, and our grievances are just cause of complaint.

*Resolved*, That past experience justifies us in using our influence with the *proper authorities* in requiring the present mail contractor to transport the mails over the route above specified according to the terms of this contract, or that he be *promptly removed*.

*Resolved*, That we earnestly protest against any person receiving, in future, a mail contract who has repeatedly and persistently proved his faithlessness in former contracts; and we will use our influence in withholding public patronage from such individual.

*Resolved*, That the secretary [of this meeting, Geo. O. Dean] be and is hereby instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Contract Office of the General Postoffice Department at Washington, and to cause the same to be published in the Charles City *Intelligencer*.

This movement resulted in the appointment of Messrs. Nichols & Co., as mail contractors, who proved faithful to their trust.

In 1866 A. E. Haskell, of Fort Dodge, obtained the contract for carrying the mail tri-weekly between Charles City and Calmar, to which latter point the McGregor Western Railroad had been completed. A semi-weekly mail was carried between Charles City and Clear Lake, by J. C. Stearns, of Charles City.

Soon after this period the railroad was built through this county, and the principal points supplied with daily mails.

#### BRIDGES.

These are almost as great a necessity to the progress of a community as the roads, of which they are often an essential part; but as they are comparatively costly, pioneer settlers cannot afford to build them, especially reliable ones, and hence a great privation has to be suffered, for many long years. Temporary bridges are built at first, of logs, boards and brush, to be carried away by the first freshet. The experience of Floyd County of course, has been no exception to the general rule. The first wagon road to become well marked by travel, was that up the Cedar River on the west side, from Cedar Falls and Nashua (or Bradford), to Floyd and Osage.

In pursuance of notice the citizens of Floyd County, met at Cheney & Brackett's Hall, St. Charles City, June 8, 1859, to devise ways and means to build bridges in the county. S. Hackey was appointed Chairman and R. G. Reiniger, Secretary. After some remarks from gentlemen in different parts of the county, it was thought advisable to give the voters a further opportunity to consider the matter; and that the subject might be more fully presented to them, the chair was instructed to appoint a committee of three in each township, whose duty it should be to call a meeting of the voters of their respective townships to discuss the propriety of laying a tax on the property in the county for the purpose aforesaid, and to see that the several townships are fully represented at the next convention, agreeably to which the chair appointed the following committee:

Rockford—A. R. Prescott, George Wyatt and Horace Stearns; Floyd—Moses Conger, Chester Butterfield and H. Wilbur; River-ton—S. Clark, Charles Young and Jacob Beck; Union—D. Ripley, Isaac Teeple and John Wallace; Niles—Newman Dutcher, — Rowe and J. B. Dawley; Rock Grove—T. T. Gilbert, W. W. Roberts and J. Hemphill; Ulster—John Ball, — Welch and John Chapman; Cedar—D. Crawford, W. B. Howard and Isaac Nadin; St. Charles—M. Gilbert, R. W. Humphrey and J. Blunt. Adjourned to July 2.

At the meeting July 2, a committee was appointed to ascertain where public bridges were necessary, and the amount to be expended upon each bridge; and they resolved that \$12,500 should be raised by tax, to be expended as follows: At St. Charles, \$3,000; Floyd, \$3,000; Rockford, \$2,000; Rock Grove, \$2,000; Union, \$2,000; Cedar, \$200; on the main road leading from St. Charles to Marble Rock, over Flood Creek, \$100; on Flood Creek, near John Ball's, in Ulster, \$100; and on Flood Creek, on the county road, west of Abram G. Shroll's, \$100. A committee was appointed to draft a petition to circulate and present to the County Court. Adjourned *sine die*.

An editorial appeared in the next issue of the *Intelligencer*, advocating the issue of county bonds, on the ground that the people were apt to be too loth to vote a direct tax upon themselves.

Others advocated the issue of county warrants, which would be receivable for taxes; but warrants were more liable to depreciate than bonds, and the idea of issuing them was abandoned.

The iron bridges in the county are noticed in the sketches of the respective towns or townships where they exist.

## UPPER CEDAR VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Aug. 11, 1871, a call was issued for a meeting of physicians in Charles City, to organize a "Medical Association." It was signed by Drs. J. W. Smith, L. P. Fitch, J. W. Nabersburg and E. J. Williams, all of Charles City. In pursuance of this call a meeting was held Sept. 22, in the Odd Fellows Hall in Charles City. Present: Drs. S. B. Chase, of Osage, a graduate of Bowdoin Medical College, 1849; J. W. Smith, of Charles City, Yale Medical College, 1850; Wm. S. Pitts, of Fredericksburg, Rush Medical College, 1868; Henry W. Turner, of Osage, Ohio Medical College, 1861; J. W. Nabersberg, of Charles City, Iowa University, 1865; J. K. Gardner, of Lawler, Michigan University, 1870; E. W. Wilbur, of Rockford, Philadelphia University, 1870; A. H. Wight, Dover, University of Michigan, 1870; J. L. Whitley, of Osage, Rush Medical College, 1869; John G. Ogden, of Mason City, New York City University Medical College, 1847; and L. P. Fitch, of Charles City, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, 1864.

A preliminary organization was effected, with Dr. Chase as Chairman, and Dr. Fitch, Secretary *pro. tem.*

After remarks upon the advisability of organizing a district medical society, by Drs. Smith, Chase and the other gentlemen present, it was resolved to organize a district medical society.

The chair appointed Drs. Smith, Turner and Pitts a committee on Permanent Organization.

The committee presented a constitution and by-laws, which were adopted by the society. The name of the society to be "The Upper Cedar Valley Medical Association," and that it includes the counties of Floyd, Mitchell, Howard, Chickasaw, Bremer, Butler, Franklin, Cerro Gordo, and Worth.

The following officers were then chosen: President, Dr. S. B. Chase; Vice President, Dr. J. W. Smith; Secretary, Dr. L. P. Fitch; Treasurer, Dr. Wm. S. Pitts.

Regular annual meetings to be held on the second Tuesday of June; a semi-annual meeting has also usually been held in December; each to be held at such place as the society shall direct.

Since the organization, the following have become members, viz., from Floyd County:

\*Dr. E. J. Williams, Charles City; Dr. M. M. Grannis, Charles

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\*Deceased.

City; Dr. Irving W. Smith, Charles City; Dr. S. Riddill, Nora Springs; Dr. C. C. Birney, Nora Springs; Dr. W. A. Clayton, Marble Rock; Dr. J. D. McKenzie, Floyd; Dr. W. H. Nichols, Rockford.

From Chickasaw County: Dr. S. S. Troy, Nashua; Dr. C. Billings, Nashua; Dr. H. M. Mixer, New Hampton; Dr. A. Babcock, New Hampton; Dr. F. O. Sherwin, Lawler.

From Mitchell County: Dr. A. H. Moore, Osage; \*Dr. Elmer Nichols, Osage; Dr. S. A. Curvath, Mitchell; Dr. Harris Fellows, Riceville; Dr. John S. Wells, Riceville.

From Cerro Gordo County: Dr. A. A. Noyes, Mason City.

From Bremer County: Dr. H. Nichols, Plainfield.

From Worth County: Dr. N. L. Kean, Northwood.

At this meeting—1882—the association numbers about twenty-five members; holds regular meetings, and includes most of the physicians of Floyd County. In professional ability, and the interest of its proceedings, it compares favorably with other similar societies.

The annual meeting of 1872 was held at Osage; all other meetings have been held at Charles City, as the most central place.

#### FLOYD COUNTY SABBATH-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF IOWA.

This association was organized July 16, 1867, in Charles City. A constitution was adopted, and R. B. Clarke, of Charles City, was elected President; Vice-Presidents, E. C. Chapin, Charles City; H. W. Bronson, Floyd; J. S. Childs, Rockford; Secretary, Rev. D. N. Bordwell, Charles City; Treasurer, David Pettit, also of Charles City. The present officers are, A. Schermerhorn, President; Dr. E. W. Wilbur, Wesley Brownell and W. E. Holbrook, Vice-Presidents; C. A. Slocum, Secretary and Treasurer. This organization has been kept alive, and its efficiency has been marked in advancing Sunday-school work in all its branches and in all the churches. By the by-laws its regular meetings are held annually, from place to place but the county is now divided into three districts, wherein meetings are to be held every month or so. This is one of the permanent organizations of Floyd County.

#### THE DRIVE-WELL SWINDLE.

A meeting of citizens interested was held at the council room in Charles City, Feb. 8, 1879, to devise means for resisting what is known as the "drive-well swindle." Hon. A. B. F. Hildreth was chosen Chairman and E. J. Gilbert, Secretary, and a committee

\* Deceased.

appointed to confer with the well agent. They made him these two propositions: 1. Each man having a drive well to deposit \$10, subject to the order of the owners of the patent, provided the cases then in litigation should be decided in their favor by the United States Supreme Court. 2. If the owners of the patent would take \$5 royalty and give twenty days for payment from date of publication of notice to that effect, no resistance to be made.

The agent said he had no authority to make concessions, but the propositions struck him as fair and business-like, and he would consult with his superiors.

A permanent organization was effected, with the following officers: A. B. F. Hildreth, President; A. G. Case, Vice-President; V. G. Barney, Treasurer; E. J. Gilbert, Secretary. Membership fee, \$1. A large number of letters were written to parties in different States, making inquiries as to progress in pending suits. But this association soon disbanded, as it was ascertained that pending litigation began to result in favor of the proprietors of the patent. The people using the drive well had all to pay the \$10 royalty.

In April following news came from New York City, that Judge Blatchford, of that place, had rendered a decision invalidating the drive-well patent; but it seems that the claims of the patentee were finally sustained. In some of the States the claims of Greene are successfully resisted.

#### FLOYD COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

This association was organized many years ago, and while kept alive did a fair proportion of work. In the career of such a society there are no marked features to form pabulum for history, and at present the Floyd County Bible Society is "resting on its oars," probably waiting for the contemplated universal canvass proposed by the American Bible Society.

#### ANECDOTAL.

The tedium of heavy history is often relieved by a comical or a peculiar incident; and while most such events in this county are related in connection with the respective village and township histories in this volume, or in the general chapters, a few unclassified anecdotes we publish in this place.

*Pressing for Music.*—A young man from the country, one evening in 1860, about to call on some musical young ladies in a Floyd County village, was told that he must ask them to sing, and that if they refused, he should *press* them. Accordingly, he commenced by requesting Miss Mary to favor him with a song. She gently declined, saying she had “a cold,” etc. “Well, then, Mith,” said our hero, “thuppothe I thqueethe you; don’t you think you might thing then?”

*Poor Smitten Pedagogue!*—In 1860 one of the fairest and plumpest girls in a Floyd County school was called out upon the floor one day for violating one of the master’s rules. After interrogating her a few moments, the master exclaimed, “Will you give me your hand?”—“Yes, sir, and my heart, too,” replied the girl, as she presented her hand and eyed him rather bewitchingly. Perfect silence reigned for a moment, and a tear was seen to glisten in the teacher’s eye. The ferule was laid upon the desk, and the blushing girl was permitted to take her seat, after being directed to tarry when school was out. As a sequel, it was understood that a wedding was agreed upon.

*A Negligent Wife.*—In 1858, a Floyd County man being about to start on a journey to Chicago, his careful wife exclaimed, “Don’t, Charles, go off with that hole in the elbow of your shirt; for if the cars should run off the track and you should be killed, people would think me a very negligent wife.” Husband (buttoning up his coat)—“Ahem! yes, I dare say they would.”

*No Gods in Iowa.*—A schoolmaster in Floyd County, just from the East, asked one of his pupils how many Gods there were. The boy scratched his head for some time and replied, “I don’t know how many Gods you have East, but we have none in Iowa.”

*Loved her a Cow’s Worth.*—In one of the western towns of the county, in 1867, a young man sought the hand of a certain young lady in matrimony. She evaded an affirmative answer for two years, and then went East, where she soon received a letter from him, stating that he had consulted a lawyer, and ascertained that he could recover from \$200 to \$500, but that if she would give him an order for the possession of a cow, which she owned, he would consider the matter settled.

*A Matrimonial Dance.*—A woman was divorced from her husband in the county, in May, 1865. Shortly afterward she married another man, and went to Idaho. In a short time she became

dissatisfied with him, deserted her new home, came to Franklin County, this State, where she married a third time. In a few weeks she deserted husband number three, and returned to this county, where she commenced again to live with her first husband, who had, in her absence in the West, married a second wife and deserted her.

*Not "Aul Hefers."*—A Floyd County constable being directed to serve an execution, was told that the property to be levied upon consisted of three heifers, and that after taking charge of the same he must indorse a return describing the property. With a view to be entirely correct, and not finding "aul hefers," he specified as follows: "I went to level on the three hefers butt they want aul hefers onely wun was A shee hefer the uthor was a mooley bull, and the uthor wun was a bulley mule."

*A Motley Squad.*—In August, 1870, a band of Indians (or gipsies), claiming to be of the Cherokee nation, visited Charles City and probably other points in this section of the county, mainly for the purpose of selling certain medicines, as there was a "medicine woman" among them. There were ten or twelve of the party, including papooses. Two were young ladies (!) and adepts at horseback riding. One young man in Charles City, desiring to take a ride on horseback (or pony-back) with one of these copper-colored maidens, was refused at first, but insisting, she very politely told him in plain English to "go to hell." The filthy stuff they sold for medicine may have been nothing more than a decoction of old soup-bones and rotten wood. They sold \$40 or \$50 worth during their short stay here. A number of young men endeavored to outwit them with reference to their medical skill, but received more than they sent. These rovers could not all have been Indians, as some had light colored hair, blue eyes and a fair skin; and they could speak English, German and French. They had four covered wagons, but no tents.

#### FLOYD COUNTY MAP.

A very reliable map of this county was drafted and published in 1878 by Warner & Foote, of Red Wing, and now of Minneapolis, Minn. It is drawn on the scale of one and three-fourths miles to the inch. It was a subscription work and sold for \$12 per copy.

## RELIEF TO WESTERN SUFFERERS.

During the year 1874 a large section of Northwestern Iowa was afflicted with a total failure of the crops from the locusts, and the people became dependent upon the public for the necessities of life. In response to their wants the citizens of Floyd County responded not only liberally but promptly.

Also in the spring of 1882, when Grinnell, Ia., was devastated by a cyclone, the citizens of this county maintained their prestige in prompt and liberal contributions for the relief of sufferers at that point. The unparalleled alacrity with which the people of this county flew to the aid of Chicago during the great fire of Oct. 9 and 10, 1871, was incredible. Within twenty hours after that fire broke out, and before it had done more than half its work, the citizens of Charles City met and made arrangements for contributions.





## TOWNSHIP HISTORIES.

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### CHARLES CITY.

#### THE BEGINNINGS.

Joseph Kelly was the first white settler within the present bounds of Charles City. For a full account of his location here, and particulars concerning other early comers to this point, see the introductory portion of the first chapter. Mr. Kelly chose this spot for the eligibility of its situation and the water-power. The river crossing here was known as the "ford" of the Cedar, and had been the location of a Winnebago village. Jerome Watson came with Mr. Kelly, but did not like the place so well, and went down the river, purchasing near Bradford. After entering his land here, Mr. Kelly returned to Wisconsin to make preparations for a permanent location the following spring. Accordingly, in the spring of 1851, he returned to this place; but his family did not come until 1854, when they erected a cabin on the spot where the Christian church now stands.

During this year, 1852, about twenty-five families arrived, among whom was John Blunt, who built the first house on the east side of the river, raising it on the 10th of June. This was at what is now the west corner of Hulin and Joslin streets, where the cellar may yet be seen. Others were Edward Haskell, Horton Mandeville and Dr. Robert L. Freeman, who erected a log house on the west side and used it for a store.

*Freeman.*—This was the first village plat laid out in the present county of Floyd, the date being April 8, 1854. The county was not then organized. This village was on the southwest side of the river, and a copy of the plat was recorded in Chickasaw County, by order of James H. Lyon, Judge. In said order it appears that Dr. Freeman and Mr. Mandeville acknowledged that the disposition of the land as shown by said plat, was "with their free consent and in accordance with their desire." The surveyors certifi-

cate, made by Seth Richardson, Surveyor, states that the situation of said plat is on the south half of the northwest quarter of section 12, township 95, 16; and that the streets running north and south are sixty-six feet wide, and those east and west, sixty feet wide; that the blocks are 300 feet north and south, by 320 east and west, with an alley of twenty feet running through the middle of each block north and south. The blocks are indicated on the plat by letters; to wit, from A to S, inclusive, with block J omitted, and in lieu thereof a block marked "Public Square," now occupied by the Fourth Ward School building.

*St. Charles.*—The original town plat of St Charles was dedicated by Joseph Kelly and Melinda Kelly, his wife, in an article dated Sept. 22, 1854, which article was acknowledged before B. Dunnwiddie, Notary Public, with a certificate attached, signed by David Wiltse, Prosecuting Attorney, acting Judge, in the absence of the county judge, stating that he was satisfied that the requirements of the code of Iowa had been fully complied with. This certificate was signed Jan. 18, 1855. Said plat was situated upon a portion of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 1, and the north half of the northeast quarter of section 12, in township 95 north, range 15 west of the fifth meridian. The streets are at an angle of north  $32^{\circ}$  east, so as to be at right angles with the streets parallel with the river. The plat consists of eighteen square blocks, 264 feet square, and six half-sized blocks on the north side. Block nine of the plat was dedicated as a public square, and is still so used.

When Mr. Kelly settled here, he brought with him his son Charles, then a lad of fourteen or fifteen years of age, and, thinking that a boy courageous enough to go out thus into an unknown and an unbroken land ought to be remembered, he called the "ford" Charlestown, in his honor. But in the course of time it was found that there was another Charlestown, in this State. The name of this place was then changed to St. Charles; but the fates were still against them, for there was another St. Charles in the State; namely, in Madison County. Hence, in 1860, the postoffice was changed to its present name, Charles City. The name of the original town has never been formally changed. In 1857 Dr. N. H. Palmer laid off an addition on the east side, with the streets

corresponding with the cardinal points of the compass, and called the plat "Charles City."

During the latter part of February, 1857, St. Charles was incorporated by the Legislature as a town or village, changing the name to "St. Charles City," and the "*St. Charles Republican Intelligencer*" forthwith for one issue changed its name to "*Charles City Republican Intelligencer*," considering the "St." superfluous. The result accorded with the *Intelligencer's* suggestion, both city and postoffice being since known by the pretty name of "Charles City."

This year, 1854, the village grew rapidly, the county was organized, by the election of officers in August, and St. Charles was selected as the county seat. Freeman's was the first store in the place, and the first hotel was that of Gilbert & Pooler, opened the previous year.

A company of capitalists from Rockford, Ill., afterward bought up a large interest in the town from Mr. Kelly, so that in 1855 the proprietors of the town were Joseph Kelly, Duncan Ferguson, R. M. Waller, Milo Gilbert, Wm. Hulin, Luke Joslin, R. M. Brantingham and William Spriggs. Lots were for sale by Wiltse & Fairfield.

Dr. Freeman was the first postmaster at this point, the office being in his store on the west side. He was succeeded in 1856 by John Blunt, who of course had the office in his store on the east side. The next postmaster was S. W. Stanberry, the next, Dr. J. W. Smith, who was succeeded in 1869 by B. F. Wright, the present incumbent. In the chapter of Miscellaneous items a further account is given of the post-offices and post routes of the county, with anecdotes.

Kelly & Co.'s Addition to St. Charles was made May 29, 1857. It consisted of eighty-two full and fractional blocks, lying on all sides of the original plat of St. Charles, and was platted by Joseph and Miranda Kelly, Milo and M. C. Gilbert, R. M. and E. J. Waller, R. M. and J. Brantingham, William Hulin, Luke Joslin, George E. and E. B. D. Woodward (by their attorney, Duncan Ferguson), and Duncan and Agnes M. Ferguson. The dedication was duly acknowledged, at the above date, and approved before J. V. W. Montague, County Clerk.

Gilbert's Addition consisted of twelve full and four half blocks, being the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 12, township 95, 16. The streets are with the cardinal points of the compass, those running east and west being a continuation of the streets of Freeman, sixty feet wide, and the streets north and south sixty-six feet wide. The plat was dedicated by Truman T. and Almira Gilbert, June 20, 1857. This addition was named "Charleston."

Kelly's Addition to St. Charles was made only four days afterward. It consisted of two blocks, numbered 27 and 28, and were dedicated to the county of Floyd, block 28, to be occupied by the court-house and grounds, and block 27, to be disposed of as the county authorities saw fit. This subdivision was surveyed by Ronaldson & Lee, Surveyors.

"Charles City" is a small plat as an eastern suburb, consisting of four full and four half blocks. It is the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 6, Township 95, 15, and was made by Dr. N. H. Palmer, April 3, 1858, the dedication being acknowledged on that day before Wm. B. Fairfield, Notary Public, and approved by David Ripley, County Judge.

Lane's Addition to the City of St. Charles consisting of seventy-four full and fractional blocks, was duly dedicated by Robert T. and Mary Lane, Dec. 22, 1864, before Duncan Ferguson, Notary Public, and approved by Abner Root, County Judge. It was surveyed and platted by David Wiltse, Surveyor. It lies on all sides of the previously platted St. Charles and additions, and squares the city out to the Government survey of the land. It does not extend over into any other section except No. 6, township 95, 15.

Holcomb & Ferguson's Subdivision of lots 15 and 16 in block 139, of Lane's subdivision of St. Charles was made June 9, 1869, on Park street and joining the west of Iowa street.

Taylor's Subdivision of lots 17 and 18, in block 131, of Lane's Addition, was made May 2, 1871, at the corner of the county and the town line roads, by Charles M. Taylor.

The manner in which Main street came to be located where it is, is somewhat interesting. In the fall of 1853 John Blunt proposed to A. L. Collins to build a store in partnership. The latter, accepting, cut and hewed out some logs during the ensuing winter. Employing a man to haul them in the spring, the teamster asked

him, "Where shall I unload the logs?"—"Oh," replied Collins, "anywhere over there [pointing] where you can find a stake." No thought was then entertained of any importance in laying out streets or the precise location and situation of a building. Main street was for many years known as "Mill street."

#### EARLY SETTLERS.

Of the fathers of Charles City, several remain here or in the county to this day, as Joseph Kelly, A. L. Collins, Milo Gilbert, G. B. Eastman, S. B. Starr, R. M. Waller, A. B. F. Hildreth Sanford Harwood, B. F. Cheney, Dr. J. W. Smith, and others, who are therefore well known to the public. Biographical sketches of these veterans of Floyd County history appear elsewhere in this volume, as in the chapters on the Courts and Bar the Press etc. Luke Joslin, R. N. Brantingham and Wm. Hulin, although among the original proprietors of St. Charles City, never resided here, but rather at Rockford, Ill., where they have long since died. Jackson Spriggs died in Pennsylvania, Dr. Freeman was here but a short time. After selling a few lots in his plat, he sold all his land here, about 1855, and removed to Elkadar, Clayton County, Ia.

Duncan Ferguson was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1809, and came to America in 1851. Being an engineer and surveyor he was always in public positions, and made for himself a good name as a railroad engineer, Government surveyor or banker. In 1856 he, with others, came to Charles City, and laid out the village. He resided here two years, doing a banking business in company with G. B. Eastman, and returned to Rockford, Ill., where he died in May, 1882.

#### CITY OFFICERS.

Charles City was incorporated as a city in the early part of 1869. The first meeting of the City Council was held June 9, 1869, the members thereof, and the other city officers having been elected on the eighth of June. The first act of the council was to adopt a motion made by C. A. Slocum, to the effect that the Mayor should appoint a committee of three to prepare by-laws and ordinances for the consideration of the council. Mayor Gilbert appointed C. A. Slocum, J. S. Root, and S. G. Bryant, who reported at the next meeting of the council a set of ordinances, which were

all adopted. In March, 1871, Charles City was ascertained to be a "city of the second class."

The officers elected each year since the incorporation, have been as follows:

1869.—Mayor, Milo Gilbert; Recorder, A. W. French; Marshal, Charles P. Collins; Treasurer, Wm. Hausburg; Street Commissioner, A. L. Collins; Councilmen, S. G. Bryant, William Hausburg, J. S. Root, S. M. Wilson, C. A. Slocum.

1870.—Mayor, Milo Gilbert; Recorder, A. W. French; Marshal, L. G. Burroughs; Treasurer, Wm. Hausburg, Street Commissioner, J. M. Miner; Councilmen, Jackson Wood, E. A. Teeling, William Hausburg, Sanford Harwood, J. R. Waller.

1871.—Mayor, C. S. Otis; Recorder, George P. Morris; Marshal, J. L. Ferris; Treasurer, H. C. Baldwin; Street Commissioner, H. H. Case (resigned), S. G. Bryant (unexpired term); Councilmen, E. Andrews, Dr. J. W. Smith, Charles A. Slocum, John Kuck, Dr. W. L. Palmer.

1872.—Mayor, D. W. C. Duncan; Clerk, Eugene B. Dyke; Marshal, S. O. Page; Treasurer, J. W. Lehmkuhl (resigned), H. C. Baldwin (unexpired term); Solicitor, J. Evans Owens; Street Com'r., S. O. Page; Councilmen: 1st Ward, C. W. Fletcher, J. G. Patterson; 2d Ward, Sanford Harwood, Frank Burnham; 3d Ward, C. N. Clark, F. T. Swift; 4th Ward, J. N. Parsons, John Howard.

1873.—Mayor, J. E. Owens; Clerk, Eugene B. Dyke; Marshal, George Leaman; Treasurer, H. C. Baldwin; Solicitor, J. Evans Owens; Street Commissioner, George T. Leaman. Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen: 1st Ward, J. G. Patterson, C. W. Fletcher; 2d Ward, Frank Burnham, Sanford Harwood; 3d Ward, F. T. Swift, A. H. Brackett; 4th Ward, J. N. Parsons, N. Phelps.

1874.—Mayor, J. E. Owens; Clerk, Eugene B. Dyke (resigned), E. J. Gilbert (unexpired term); Marshal, L. M. Loper; Treasurer, Morton Wilbur; Solicitor, A. M. Harrison; Street Commissioner, J. C. Stearns; Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen: 1st Ward, C. W. Fletcher, L. J. Waller; 2d Ward, Frank Burnham, John Howard; 3d Ward, A. H. Brackett, Ira K. Lee; 4th Ward, J. N. Parsons, N. Phelps.

1875.—Mayor, W. D. Balch; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, L. M. Loper; Treasurer, Morton Wilbur; Solicitor, A. M. Harrison; Street Commissioner, J. C. Stearns; Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen, 1st Ward, L. J. Waller, John Ferguson; 2d Ward, John Howard, Frank Burnham; 3d Ward, Ira K. Lee, A. H. Brackett; 4th Ward, N. Phelps, T. W. Clapp.

1876.—Mayor, C. W. Fletcher; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, B. M. Loper; Treasurer, Morton Wilbur; Solicitor, S. P. Leland; Street Commissioner, J. C. Stearns; Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen: 1st Ward, John Ferguson, Carl Merckel, Jr.; 2d Ward, George P. Morris, John Howard; 3d Ward, A. H. Brackett, E. G. Barney; 4th Ward, T. W. Clapp, A. M. Thomas.

1877.—Mayor, C. W. Fletcher; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, L. M. Loper; Treasurer, W. D. Balch; Solicitor, S. P. Leland; Street Commissioner, J. C. Stearns; Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen: 1st Ward, Carl Merckel, Jr., John Ferguson; 2d Ward, John Howard, George P. Morris; 3d Ward, E. G. Barney, A. H. Brackett; 4th Ward, A. M. Thomas, Charles A. Slocum.

1878.—Mayor, C. W. Fletcher; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, Ira K. Lee; Treasurer, Morton Wilbur; Solicitor, A. M. Harrison; Street Commissioner, J. C. Stearns; Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen: 1st Ward, John Ferguson, Carl Merckel, Jr.; 2d Ward, George P. Morris, John Howard; 3d Ward, A. H. Brackett, J. E. Rich; 4th Ward, Charles A. Slocum, V. E. Bort.

1879.—Mayor, A. R. Spriggs; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, Ira K. Lee; Treasurer, S. F. Farnham; Solicitor, A. M. Harrison; Street Commissioner, T. C. Bumgardner; Assessor, A. W. French; Councilmen: 1st Ward, George R. May, Eli Brownell; 2d Ward, John Howard, T. A. Hand; 3d Ward, J. E. Rich, O. Pomeroy; 4th Ward, V. E. Bort, N. Phelps.

1880.—Mayor, Carl Merckel, Jr.; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, L. M. Loper; Treasurer, George P. Morris; Solicitor, A. M. Harrison; Street Commissioner, T. C. Bumgardner; Assessor, Eli Brownell; Councilmen: 1st Ward, Eli Brownell, George R. May; 2d Ward, John Howard, M. Martin; 3d Ward, O. Pomeroy, George P. Smith; 4th Ward, N. Phelps, V. E. Bort.

1881.—Mayor, P. W. Burr; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal L. M. Loper; Treasurer, George P. Morris; Solicitor, A. M. Harrison; Street Commissioner, T. C. Bumgardner; Assessor, Eli Brownell; Councilmen: 1st Ward, George R. May, C. M. Carr; 2d Ward, M. Martin, J. E. Owens; 3d Ward, George P. Smith, Carl Merckel, Jr.; 4th Ward, V. E. Bort, E. A. Teeling.

1882.—Mayor, J. S. Trigg; Clerk, J. S. Bradley; Marshal, George T. Leaman; Treasurer, W. E. Holbrook; Solicitor, P. W. Burr; Street Commissioner, Charles Inglehart; Assessor, Eli Brownell; Councilmen: 1st Ward, C. M. Carr, W. A. G. Tripp;

2d Ward, J. H. Elliott, M. Martin; 3d Ward, Carl Merkel, Jr., W. A. Fairbank; 4th Ward, E. A. Teeling, D. H. Ferguson.

Sometimes the city has elected a board of officers and aldermen in favor of license, sometimes a board opposed to it, and occasionally some of both parties at the same election. This year (1882) the whole board is "no-license."

#### BUSINESS MEN IN EARLY DAYS.

It will be interesting here to glance at the business directory of St. Charles from 1856 to 1860, as appeared by the business cards and advertisements in the *Intelligencer* during those years.

General Stores—Blunt & Collins, John Ferguson & Co., Wright & McNabb, Wright & Bro., Cheney & Brackett, Montague & Co., Rumpf, Lehmkuhl & Co.

Boots and Shoes—Ferguson & Sampson.

Hardware—Gilbert & Waller, Ferguson & Stanley ("Mill street, opposite the new hotel").

Drugs and Books—A. B. F. Hildreth, Hildreth & Carver (books, wall paper, lands, marble works, etc.), Fessenden & Montague, Smith & Atkinson.

Blacksmiths—Wm. M. Langstaff, Levi Schermerhorn, C. E. Bigelow, R. D. & C. E. Bigelow & Co., Franklin R. Wooley, Wooley & Snyder.

Architects and Builders—Theodore Mix, James Jackson, Cole & Jackson.

Carpenters—Lutz & Terry.

Cabinet Maker—John Howard.

Painters—Heath & Atkinson, John Heath.

Tailor—T. Donohue.

Clocks, Watches and Jewelry—D. Gilbert, Haskins & Sawyer.

Harness and Saddlery—Pettit & Ferguson.

Livery—J. N. Montgomery.

Baker—John Muir.

Shingles—Uzziel Weeks.

Real Estate—A. L. Collins, Abner Root, Patterson, Lee & Ronaldson (land agents, surveyors and civil engineers).

Law and Real Estate—Samuel B. Starr, G. G. Reiniger.

Law—A. K. Eaton, T. D. Pooler, Wm. H. Sawyer, French, Wiltse & Fairfield, G. G. Reiniger, I. W. Card & R. G. Reiniger, H. C. Stinson, D. W. Poindexter, J. G. Patterson.

Justice of the Peace—Joshua Jackson.



Physicians—J. W. Smith (Eclectic), W. A. Fessenden, S. Riddill.

Bankers—Ferguson, Eastman & Co.

Insurance—Wm. B. Fairfield.

Hotels—Joseph Kelly ("St. Charles Hotel"), Christopher Martin (leased the former in February, 1857), Smith & Goddard (opened a new hotel Jan. 1, 1857, called the "Magnolia House").

Miller—Joseph Kelly.

Nursery—Geo. E. Dunbar.

Sugar Mill—Sanford Howard. (Probably the first in the county).

Newspaper—St. Charles *Intelligencer*, started July 31, 1856, the first number of which was sold at auction for \$20. A full account is given in the chapter on the Press.

We now reach a point in the growth of Charles City, where, according to the law of divergence of functions, as taught in modern scientific works in connection with evolution, material and moral interests differentiate into distinct departments, as business associations, factories, banks, schools, temperance organizations, military affairs, railroads, churches, clubs and a great variety of other movements; and while most of these are treated to some extent, and some of them thoroughly, in more appropriate chapters in this work, it is our duty here more fully to detail those things which in their bearings are confined almost or quite exclusively to Charles City. Our order will be, first, factories and banks; then churches, secular societies, educational affairs and miscellaneous.

#### MANUFACTORIES, ETC.

*Water-Power.*—A log dam was first built at St. Charles in 1854, by Joseph Kelly, the original owner. The same year and the year following he started a saw-mill for an upright saw, and also the foundation of a flouring mill; and in the summer of 185 he entered into contract with Col. John P. Knight, to start a three-run flouring mill. This was built, and put in operation in February 1856; and at that time it was the only mill in Floyd County, or indeed in all this part of the country, the nearest neighboring mill being at Cedar Falls. It was known as the frontier mill, and for many years it alone held sway throughout this region, patrons coming even from Minnesota,—from as far north as Blue Earth County. This mill was operated until 1875, when it was torn down to make room for the present structure.

*The Charles City Water-Power Company* was organized in March, 1875, with Milo Gilbert, President ; John G. Patterson, Secretary ; and W. D. Balch, Treasurer. The Board of Directors comprised the above named men and F. T. Swift, John P. Taylor, R. G. Reiniger and A. R. Spriggs. There were seventy-two stockholders, subscribing from \$250 to \$8,000 each in \$25 shares, making a total of \$100,000. They immediately assessed ten per cent. on the stock and proceeded to build a new dam.

March 4, 1876, the water-power was conveyed to this company, the deed filed for record, and the keys to the grist-mill given up to President Gilbert, who employed E. A. Teeling to take charge of the same. Mrs. Kelly carried out her verbal agreement to the letter and subscribed \$4,000 stock. She also yielded the claim for rent against the lessee of the mill property. She sold the power for \$25,000, after she had been previously offered \$50,000, and \$70,000, so desirous was she to revive business and property value in Charles City.

The board immediately took possession of the old mill which stood upon the water-power erected in 1855 by Joseph Kelly, Sr., and operated the same until some time in July following, when it was taken down to make room for the present mill and improvements then being made by the company ; and the erection of the dam and the digging of the race through the solid rock for the present flouring mill power continued until the south side basement was built. The present mill was put in operation in February 1876, and the Water-Power Company has continued to operate it until the present time. It is now under the management of H. C. Ireland, Superintendent, who has had charge of all the matters pertaining to the company for the last three years. The company at present is officered by Milo Gilbert, President ; J. P. Taylor, Vice-President ; S. F. Farnham, Treasurer ; and Alexander Spriggs, Secretary.

The works consist of a flouring mill, with a capacity of 200 barrels of flour per day ; one sixty-inch turbine wheel, under a nine-foot four-inch head of water, being equal to about sixty-five horse-power. It has a full set of Stephens corrugated rolls, and all modern machinery of a first-class flouring mill. The brands manufactured here are the "Directors'," "Fancy Patent," "Minnesota Patent," "Straight" and "Family." The structure has also attached to it a feed mill for wheat, rye, buckwheat and corn, consisting of two run of stone, propelled by a Leffel turbine wheel

affording an eighty-five horse power. A portion of the power is now being attached to the plow factory in process of erection by the Charles City Plow Company. The presses of the *Intelligencer* office are also run by this power, communicated by cable over the tops of the intervening buildings.

This great flour manufactory is called the "Centennial Mills," in honor of the year it was put in operation. Much of the time it is run night and day, and the products are marketed mostly at home and in Dakota.

The present dam is substantial and neat, permitting a beautiful sheet of water to fall over its crest and slide down an apron at an angle of forty-five degrees, thus affording a pleasant and attractive scene to all passers by upon the bridge a few rods below. A remarkable feat is performed here occasionally by some young men which we ought not to leave unnoticed. Undressed they proceed out to near the middle of the dam, and slide headlong down the apron, a distance of about twelve feet, into the depths below, sometimes upon their backs and sometimes with their faces downward. Like loons they emerge in the distance unharmed and happy.

*Charles City Plow Factory.*—This institution had its origin in the efforts of its present senior proprietor, F. R. Wooley, who in 1856 commenced blacksmithing here in a small way, and in 1859 commenced the manufacture of plows in this place, which were superior to those of Eastern make. In 1862 he built a factory which he conducted until 1876, where the present shop stands, opposite the east corner of the public square. The business so increased that this year (1882), the company erected, across Main street from the Centennial Mills, a three-story brick building, 34x80 feet, at a cost of about \$3,500, with power derived by shaft and pulley from the mills just mentioned, equal to twenty-five horse power, leased for ten years. The machinery and other works are of course not included in the above estimate of cost. The company is about to be formed, or re-organized, on the stock principle, and will manufacture plows for all grades of farm work; breaking, riding, sulky, corn plows, etc., and make repairs. They use patent steel, branding their plows after the name of the city, and contemplate extending their trade over the broad prairies of the North and West.

*"Boss Harrow" Company.*—The initiatory of the business of this company is given in the biographical sketch of H. S. Howard, in a subsequent portion of this work. The harrows made by this

company were patented by John E. Perkinson, of Wisconsin, and introduced here by Mr. Howard. In the winter of 1877-'78, Messrs. Howard and Gulchers made 120 of these harrows and began to wholesale them. They sent a few to Fargo, Dakota, and Lake Park, Minn. The winter of 1878, 300 were manufactured, under the firm name of Quinby & Howard, and they extended their trade to a number of points in Minnesota, Dakota, and Iowa.

In 1879-'80, Mr. W.H. Davis purchased Mr. Quinby's interest, and the firm became H. S. Howard & Co., and they manufactured 600 harrows. The winter of 1880-'81, Mr. Howard, W. H. Davis, and Walter Davis from Wisconsin, manufactured 2,000 harrows, and built a small factory near Mr. Tait's Tow Mill in Charles City, using Mr. Tait's power. In July, 1881, H. C. Raymond, of Charles City, became a partner in the business, furnishing one-half the cash capital; and the fall of 1881 and spring of 1882, the company manufactured between 3,000 and 4,000 harrows. The spring of 1882, Walter Davis retired from the firm, and W. H. Davis and H. C. Raymond, deciding that the business demanded new shops and better facilities for manufacturing, built their present shops, adding improved machinery, and an engine. They now occupy a building 250 feet long by 24 wide, and give direct employment to sixteen men. This factory is one of the leading manufactories of Charles City.

*The Charles City Furniture Manufactory*, by Stevens, Hering & Co., was established in April, 1870, under the firm of Elkins & Hering. In 1872 the firm became Stevens, Hering & Co., the parties being B. W. Stevens, W. C. Hering and E. J. Fisher; the latter is manager of the factory. This institution gives employment to twenty-five men, who make fine furniture of all kinds, bank and store counters, church, office and lodge furniture, shelving, etc. This stock is sold both by wholesale and retail at their store on Main street. This building is twenty-two feet front by ninety feet deep, and two stories high. One man is employed as a traveling agent. This is one of the leading business institutions of Charles City.

*Elm Springs Creamery*.—This is a new and rapidly growing institution, located about twenty rods below the bridge on the west side of the river, where there is a large spring of perfectly pure water, shaded by a noble elm. The original building is two stories,

with basement 24 x 40 feet in size, for a cheese factory, and a wing 18 x 36 for a creamery, two stories high. The lower floors are in a quarry where stone has been dug. One basement floor is of wood, with a drain; the other is flagged with smooth limestone. In one corner of the cheese factory is the boiler room, for furnishing steam to heat the milk from which the cheese is made. This room is so close that no heat gets through the partition or emerges through the door; so the only heat which gets there must come through the steam pipes into the milk vats. A stone vault or sub-cellar is cut off from the creamery of the basement, where the finished butter is kept before shipping. In the main butter-room are water reservoirs, where the cream is raised or cooled before churning.

On the second and third floors we find the storage for cheese while in process of curing, and another room for receiving the milk and cream daily. One churn changes cream into 160 to 250 pounds of butter at a churning.

During the season of 1882, a large addition to the south side of this building has been made, one story and a deep basement.

The present proprietors are Burt White, J. S. Trigg and H. C. Raymond.

G. H. Bennett, in the spring of 1863, put in operation a good carding machine in Charles City. Mr. Rider, of Floyd, a disabled soldier and an experienced workman, was employed to superintend it.

*Treat & Klepper's Marble Works* are located on Main street near corner of Water street. These works were first established by E. B. Moore some ten years ago. Six years since Mr. Treat bought out the yard and conducted the business alone until August, 1882, when the present copartnership was formed. They turn out first-class work.

W. Winternik started the first marble works in the county eighteen years ago. At that time there were but two marble yards in the State—one at Dubuque and a small shop at Cedar Falls. His works are located on Main street, near Kelly street. He works all kinds of marble, granite, etc., and has a good custom. He formerly worked in Chicago, commencing there thirty-five years ago.

*Quarries.*—The Cedar River, near Charles City, is lined with good building-stone, and several quarries have been worked. A number of beautiful buildings—in fact all the best of them—are

built of this stone, as the Union House block, Dr. Smith's business block and residence, the two school-houses, two churches, etc. Some of this stone is capable of receiving a very high polish, and hence has been called "St. Charles marble." One species has been used for grave-stones but for this purpose it is not very durable.

#### IMPROVEMENTS GENERALLY.

In the winter of 1871-'2, the enterprising citizens of Charles City began to feel that special efforts should be made to secure manufactories and public institutions, as additional improvements to their beautiful town. Accordingly Feb. 3, 1872, a meeting was held and an executive committee appointed to forward the interests of the place. Feb. 10 a mass meeting was held at Raymond's Hall, where Judge Reiniger, being called upon, stated the object of the meeting. He said that Charles City had attained its full growth unless something be done in the way of public improvements; that there were projects for securing a State Normal School, manufacturing establishments of various kinds and for the location here of the machine shops of the I. & D. division of the M. & St. P. R. R. After remarks were made by several gentlemen respecting normal schools, Hon. J. G. Patterson offered the following resolution which was adopted: "That Hon. R. G. Reiniger, Prof. I. Shepard and Mr. J. F. Spaulding be appointed a committee to correspond with our Representatives in the Legislature on the subject of the passage of a normal school bill; that they select in or near Charles City a suitable site for such a school, ascertain for what it can be purchased, and learn from the citizens individually, as far as possible, what can be relied on in the way of money and means as a donation to secure the location of such a school at this place.

The question of asking for the location of railroad shops here at this time was a delicate one, as the county had been so backward in paying up its railroad tax. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to ask the railroad company how much bonus they would require, over and above the unpaid taxes due, to induce them to locate their machine shops at this place.

Mr. Taylor, from the committee on manufactures, reported that \$250 had been subscribed for buying a lot for Stevens, Elkins & Co., to build a furniture factory upon, and asked for further time; which was granted.

The water-power question again came up, and after some deliberation a committee was appointed to ascertain the terms for which the water-power could be bought or leased, and to ask Mr. Joseph Kelly, the proprietor, how much he would help the enterprise.

Another committee was appointed to look after the manufacturing interests of Charles City generally. Milo Gilbert, R. G. Reiniger and J. P. Taylor constituted this committee. Messrs. Patterson, Mahara and Boulton offered donations of ground for manufactories. It was stated that during the preceding year \$20,000 worth of plows had been sold in the city, which could just as well have been manufactured here.

Meanwhile the *Intelligencer* was working industriously to advance all these local interests.

At the next meeting, one week subsequently, most of the committees reported progress, and were continued in duty. On the water-power, the committee reported Mr. Kelly's terms, and were continued. Subscriptions were taken for this enterprise to the amount of \$7,000, and the committee instructed to raise this to \$10,000, as a bonus to any company that would purchase and improve the water-power. The enterprise of Stevens, Elkins & Co. was reported as making progress, a respectable subscription was raised "on the spot," and the committee instructed to "push things." At the next meeting, Feb. 24, \$600, the amount required, was raised for the furniture factory. A. R. Spriggs, A. G. Case and J. G. Patterson were appointed a committee to secure the services of a competent engineer for examining the water-power and determining its capacity.

In March a letter from Mr. Lawler was published, informing the citizens of Charles City that the Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. Co., being embittered against the county for its dilatoriness in paying the tax it had agreed to pay, peremptorily declined to locate their shops at this place.

June 1 the committee on the water-power reported that they had entered into a contract with Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, whereby they had the refusal of the power for forty-five days for any company or corporation that might be organized to purchase the same, at \$40,000, payable \$4,000 in cash, and the balance on or before ninety-nine years from date, with interest at eight and three-fourths per cent., payable semi-annually. The committee was instructed to proceed with the raising of subscriptions as speedily as practicable.

The idea of levying a tax was advanced, but, after some discussion, was abandoned. Then the plan of raising stock, in \$100 shares, was proposed and adopted. A committee was appointed to draft articles of incorporation, and all hands resolved to rush business.

At a meeting held in the Christian church, April 30, 1881, to encourage the proposed railroad and local enterprises generally, F. A. Roziene, H. C. Raymond, A. R. Spriggs, V. G. Barney, J. P. Taylor and Milo Gilbert were appointed a committee to prepare a constitution and by-laws for a board of trade, with power to correspond with railroad companies and capitalists in relation to any of the interests of Charles City; to call a meeting to receive their report and for organization. May 17 following this company organized as the "Charles City Improvement Association," with constitution and by-laws, and by the election of the following officers: F. A. Roziene, President; H. Raymond, Vice-President; D. Townsend, Secretary; W. D. Balch, Treasurer; A. R. Spriggs, V. C. Barney and Dr. J. W. Smith, Executive Committee. Article II of the constitution states the object of the association to be "to promote manufacturing industries now located or to be located here; to encourage the development of desirable enterprises of whatever character, looking to the material advancement and improvement of our city." The constitution was signed by nearly or quite all the business men of the city, who took hold in "solid earnest." The present officers are the same as at first elected. The association is now watching for opportunities.

#### THE BRIDGE.

A bridge across the Cedar at Charles City that would withstand wind and flood must necessarily be expensive, and the early settlers needed such a bridge as much as do the people at the present day; but they had not the means for building it. Hence much exercise of patience was required, in waiting for means to be accumulated sufficient to construct a reliable bridge. A part of the season the river could be "forded," and the rest it could generally be ferried, except when flood-wood or ice or high water alone prevented. Ferry charges were often high, and the indignant citizens would make up a little fund and run a free ferry for a time.

Dec. 19, 1857, a bridge meeting resolved to proceed at once. Mr. Applebee presented a plan. On the 23d, S. Wiggin's plan was adopted. Bridge to be on Mill street. Committee on build-



ing—Milo Gilbert, Ira Brackett, P. C. Turner, D. W. Poindexter, R. M. Waller, Samuel Hackley, I. K. Lee and R. W. Humphrey. \$2,200 was subscribed, and contract let to Mr. Wiggin, to be assisted by P. C. Turner. Length 195 feet; estimated cost \$2,086.50. It seems, however, that the work did not go on, until in January, 1858, when it was started, but was carried away in the flood of that year. It was a huge wooden arch, with a curve of ten or twelve feet.

Dec. 11, 1860, a meeting was held to take into consideration the practicability of erecting a bridge across the Cedar at that place. Plans were submitted by O. D. Spaulding and O. Allbee, and a committee appointed to inspect them and report at the next meeting, December 22, at the Stone Hall. This meeting, however, was held a week later, when a plan was submitted by F. W. Crosby, of Tama County, and a committee appointed to raise funds. But little was done for some time. Other meetings were held, and the work dragged along, and the bridge was not really completed until March 28, 1864. In 1866 the most of the bridge and one pier were swept away, and a new wooden bridge was put up in its place, being completed the last week of March, 1867.

In 1870 a beautiful and substantial iron bridge was completed at this point. It is of the "L. E. Truesdell patent," an iron double truss, 240½ feet in length, two spans, respectively 123½ and 117 feet, with a roadway eighteen feet in the clear, and sidewalks five feet in the clear. The bridge is all of iron, except the floor beams and planking.

By contract the bridge was to cost \$45 per lineal foot, or \$10,822.50 for the whole structure, to be paid for in "Floyd County Bridge Warrants," bearing ten per cent. interest. W. H. and L. E. Truesdell, of Belvidere, Ill., were the contractors.

The stone work is substantial and well finished, and cost \$3600. It was built under the supervision of Col. J. P. Knight and Judge A. L. Collins.

This bridge was completed June 8, following, and a test of its strength and solidity instituted which satisfied all parties. In 1882 it was replanked and repainted.

#### CHARLES CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

For most of the following history we are indebted to the paper prepared and read last year by Miss William Knapp, of Charles City, now Mrs. Charles Dexter, of Minneapolis, Minn.

In 1855 there were very few families in Charles City, but those few were an enterprising people. They must have a school, and they did. A small house 18 x 20 feet, built and owned by Sanford Harwood, and located about where Judge Reiniger's residence now stands, was rented, Miss Melinda Palmer engaged as teacher, and the little school quietly opened. In the following winter Dr. J. M. Parsons assumed the title of teacher, and gathered his little flock in a building situated not twenty feet from the center of this room, or, to be more exact, on the present site of the Savings Bank.

The next summer Miss Palmer's name appeared again as teacher. This was the summer, 1856, when the first school-house was built. Mr. Sanford Harwood had the contract and erected a frame house 26 x 30 feet in size, on the block since occupied by our High School building. Eleven years it was a shelter and a second home for the children, and when it could no longer hold them, it was sold and removed to lots back of Woolley & Snyder's foundry.

In the summer of 1827 Miss L. E. Raymond, now Mrs. McKinley, was placed at the head of the school, which she tells us then numbered sixty pupils. She describes it as a happy, profitable term. She was succeeded in the winter by J. M. Brainard, a gentleman who is described as possessing a violin and a lovely little wife.

The season of 1857 was one of great prosperity, and an "academy" was started in Charles City, May 4, by J. M. Brainard, teacher. "Ainsworth's Academy," at present, is a select school of fifty-two pupils, taught by Mrs. Miner.

This closes the first period of development. Up to this time the school was supported by a pro rata tax, each man paying according to the number of children he sent, thereby exempting all the old bachelors and bald-headed men, but now a new law revolutionized matters. It was provided that each civil township should become a township district, to be divided into subdistricts each of which must have a school at least twenty-four weeks in the year. One director elected from each subdistrict formed a board of directors, who should organize and have charge of all the schools in the township district. It was also provided that the schools be supported by a tax on all assessed property. In accordance with the new law, the people of St. Charles Township elected a board of directors in the spring of 1858. May 15 those gentlemen met at the office of Dr. J. W. Smith, organized, and elected Dr. J. M.

Parsons, President ; Harvey Kellogg, Vice-President ; and Dr. J. W. Smith, Secretary ; at that time the most important office. The other directors were A. W. French, R. W. Humphrey and William Harvey, all active men and willing to work for the public good.

With the organization of this board, a new impetus was given to the growth of popular education. Soon after, the board fixed the boundaries of six subdistricts, that part of Charles City lying west of the Cedar River becoming District No. 2, and on the east side District No. 3. We shall confine this history during the second and third periods to the latter.



CHARLES CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Nov. 1, 1858, we find it recorded in Dr. Smith's well known hand: "B. T. Catlin is employed as teacher in Subdistrict No. 3 at \$35 per month," and also: "Voted that twenty-four days be considered a month." Mr. Brant Tecumseh Catlin is described as a young man of fine education and gentlemanly bearing. He passed away from these scenes years ago, and now lives in one of the Eastern States.

In the spring of 1859 we pause to record the election of Mr. Asa W. French as Secretary of the School Board, an office which he continued to hold for twenty years. During this summer Miss

Mary D. Cheney was installed as school-ma'am over the large tangle of children. In September it is recorded: "Voted, that if the director can hire a room for \$3 per month, and a teacher for \$3.50 per week, we support two schools in Subdistrict No. 3 the coming winter." For two or three years previous, Misses Olive and Mary Cheney had taught a select school in a small building on the lots back of what is known as the Ely House barn. This room was rented of them for the winter, afterward bought and repaired and the school was divided, Miss Betsey Hunter, now Mrs. Atkins, of Decorah, selected as teacher of the primary department, and Mr. A. W. French placed over the higher school. Mr. French's report at the close of the winter term is the oldest in existence.

The two departments were continued during the summer following under Miss Mary D. Cheney and Miss Ellen L. Wilbur. In the winter, Mr. E. J. McClelland took Miss Cheney's place in the higher school, the primary having no change. He continued at the head of the school one year, when he went into the southern part of the State, and word has since been received that he is dead.

Feb. 23, 1861, a school meeting was held, when the principal business was to devise means for building a union school-house. For this purpose it was desired to unite Subdistricts Nos. 2 and 3, but a majority of the residents were opposed to union; some were opposed conditionally. A resolution was adopted for locating the school building on that side of the river where the largest subscription should be raised. Estimates of cost of the building were submitted.

About this time O. A. Slocum was engaged as principal.

Next follows, in the summer of 1862, Wm. N. Witted and Miss Katie Wright, and in the succeeding winter the same gentleman and Mrs. Alma L. Bennett. Nothing, save the names, has been learned of this year's labor.

In the summer of 1863 Miss Ellen L. Wilbur entered the higher school, was married in August, and signs her report with the name of Ellen L. Slocum. Miss Olive O. Cheney was engaged in the primary school the same term, and continued there three years and a half, with the exception of one term. In the winter of 1863 and 1864, Mr. Wm. N. Witted returned and continued in the school during the summer of 1864. Mr. Witted is spoken of highly as a very good teacher. We have learned that after leaving Charles City he went to South America, and there died of yellow fever.

Miss Matilda Smith took his place in the school, and Miss O. O. Cheney having gone East for the winter, Miss Lida Peters was engaged for the little people. This brings us to the spring of 1865. The school law of 1858, previously mentioned, had, with a few changes, become established beyond the fear of a repeal. Good houses were built in nearly all the subdistricts, for which the township district had paid. The increased number of children demanded a new school-house in No. 3. At a meeting of the Board of Directors, Dr. Smith being President, the people of Charles City asked, through him, for a house not costing less than \$8,000. "You can't have it," said the board. "We must," said Dr. Smith. After much skirmishing it was finally voted to build a stone house, 50 x 60 feet in dimension, two stories high, each story to be fifteen feet in the clear, basement eight feet; we quote from the record. Limited by these instructions, which the Doctor dared not ask to have changed, he went to Chicago and procured the plans and specifications, which were afterward, with a few alterations, accepted by the board. Bonds bearing ten per cent. interest were readily taken.

#### ST. CHARLES GRADED SCHOOL.

Probably the first instance in the State of Iowa where a township established a graded school under the general school law, was the building of the magnificent school edifice at Charles City in 1865-'66; and for its erection and completion great credit is due Dr. J. W. Smith, then President of the School Board of St. Charles District Township. Besides devoting much of his time to the work, he advanced \$175 from his own pocket for plans and specifications from Bloomington, Ill.

At the annual meeting of the district township in March, 1865, it was voted that a school-house be built, to cost not less than \$8,000; and the contract for its erection was made shortly afterward. Then the difficult question arose, how shall the money be obtained to pay the contractors? The treasury contained less than \$1,400, and the law, which limited the levy of taxes to five mills on the dollar, would give less than \$2,000 per annum for school-house purposes in the entire township district; and out of these funds two other school-houses were to be built in other parts of the township. These latter houses were built, one of stone, 22 x 32 feet on the ground, and fourteen feet in the clear, at a cost of

\$1,400 ; the other of wood, 20 x 30, feet on the ground and twelve feet in the clear, at a cost of \$900. These were built at the same time that work on the larger structure in the village was going forward. The financial problem was solved by issuing warrants upon the treasury from time to time, bearing interest at ten per cent., payable annually. These warrants were cashed at par by various citizens friendly to the enterprise, and thus the means were provided to carry forward and complete the work.

Joseph Johnson, of Cedar Falls, was awarded the contract to do the mason work on the large house in the village. The work commenced June 28, 1865, but the contractor did not proceed as rapidly with it as was expected, and winter came before the walls were up. He concluded his bid was too low and went to Kansas. His bondsmen, however, made good the contract, probably at a slight loss.

The carpenter and joiner work was done by Robinson & Elliott, of Cedar Falls.

The building was completed by Jan. 1, 1867. It is 50 x 60 feet on the ground, and three stories high. The lower rooms, in the basement, are ten feet in the clear, and the second and third stories are each fifteen feet in the clear. The house is surmounted by an exceedingly tasteful tower, or belfry, which gives the whole structure a beautiful and commanding appearance. The material of which the walls are built is a handsome gray limestone, quarried near town. The windows are large, arched and elaborately finished. The plastered walls are all hard-finished, smooth, and white as snow. The wood-work is all grained in imitation of oak. There are six large rooms, each capable of seating from seventy-five to one hundred pupils. The seats and desks were purchased in Chicago. They are made of cherry, and are of two kinds,—one the combination seat and desk, and the other the collegiate desk and chair. Each room is slated entirely around, for black-board work. The reception room is situated between the termini of the two opposite flights of stairs in the second story. Ventilation good, closets large and commodious, and all the work well done.

The contract price of the house, for mason and joiner work, was \$10,661.67, which does not include the furnishing bill. The amount paid for stoves and desks and placing the same in the different rooms ready for use, was \$1,294.35, making the total cost \$11,956.02.

During the building of this house labor was dear, new stone quarries had to be opened, and nearly all the lumber had to be hauled from Cedar Falls or Waverly, a distance of thirty to forty-five miles.

The opening of the first term of school in this building was formally announced for Monday, Jan. 21, 1867, with D. W. C. Duncan, A.B., as principal, assisted by a competent corps of teachers. The school opened with four departments,—primary, intermediate, grammar and high school,—the latter comprising spelling, algebra, natural philosophy, chemistry, geology, astronomy, higher mathematics, physical geography, languages, bookkeeping and analysis. Tuition free to all students residing within the township, and \$5 to \$8 per term to others.

#### GENERAL SCHOOL HISTORY RESUMED.

During the summer, while the work of the new school-house was going on, Miss Matilda Smith continued in the higher school, but in the following winter Miss Shepardson took Miss Smith's place. In those days they fastened the school-house door with a piece of bark, and drew close about the fire on cold mornings. It is also related that at noontime the children might often be seen flying out of the house pell-mell, behind them appearing John Chapman, wildly flourishing a broom. The door would close with a loud bang, and when the bolder ones crept softly up to the window, behold John setting before the fire, poker in hand, enjoying himself alone. Miss Shepardson was a fine teacher for such a turbulent school. In the summer of 1866, Miss Mary E. Stearns, now Mrs. John R. Waller, taught the higher department, Miss Cheney, as before mentioned, having charge of the primary. These were the last schools in the old houses, and brings us to the close of the second period.

Again we turn to the record—Oct. 6, 1866: "On motion of Mr. Allbee, it was voted to employ D. W. C. Duncan to teach and have supervision of the graded school in Subdistrict No. 3, at \$1,000 per year. On motion of Mr. Humphrey, \$16 per week was allowed to procure assistants, and it was provided that the principal should be consulted in the choice of assistants." We call attention to this because it is the first time the word principal is recorded, and indicates a new dignity.

Under Mr. Duncan's supervision five grades were established, taught by different teachers, whose names, had we space, we would gladly give. You will recall a few of them, viz: Miss Louisa Robinson, Miss Ruth Woodin, Miss Grace Davidson, Miss Helen Smith, Miss Laura Warn.

Mr. Duncan remained two years, when in the fall of 1868, S. F. Wood was employed as principal, at a salary of \$800 per annum.

He was followed by G. W. Bennett, now editor of the *Mitchell County News*.

Then came James H. Magoffin, in the spring of 1870. Many pleasant and a few amusing incidents are told of his work here. We must beg leave to give one. It happened one afternoon as a young lady lifted the lid of her desk she discovered a litter of little pink mice. Of course a suppressed scream and a chorus of giggles followed. This called for an investigation on the spot. "Who did that? Who put those mice in Miss A's desk?" and the gentlemanly teacher looked sternly at the *bad* boys, revolving in his mind what appropriate punishment he should inflict. There was dead silence in the room, when slowly arose a studious youth, who had the reputation of being one of the good ones, and in the low, measured tones of Irving Smith came the words, "Professor, I did." Mr. Bennett was taken wholly by surprise.

Mr. Magoffin's work closed here soon after the formation of the independent district. With that organization began the last period of our history, which must be passed over rapidly.

Charles City was set off as an independent school-district, taking in something more than sub-districts two and three, in the spring of 1871. The first Board of Directors for the district, organized at the council rooms, March 20th; members, J. S. Root, President, F. Burnham, Henry Pettit, Dr. J. W. Smith, F. T. Swift, J. W. Lehmkuhl. The school could now advance without hindrance. A new stone house was erected on the west side of the river, but was burned when nearly completed. About half-past two o'clock in the morning of Dec. 13, 1871, the fire was first discovered, and then it was under full headway. The loss fell upon the contractors, principally Mr. Bridge, contractor for the wood-work, who had an insurance of \$1,400 upon it. Chris. Kuhnlee, contractor for the mason work, had no insurance. The total loss was \$2,573.96. The origin of the fire is a mystery. The next year it was rebuilt, and is now the best one in the district. It is two stories high, built of beautiful dark gray limestone, with which the county



abounds, painted with black cement, and the corners finished off with light yellow stone. It is surmounted with a handsome bell tower. There are two school-rooms, each 24 x 35 feet, having forty desks, iron frame, wood work of oiled cherry. The rooms have large blackboards, ventilators, etc. The wood work is handsomely grained, the work of Taylor. The lower room is fourteen feet from floor so ceiling, the upper fourteen and one-half feet. The halls are commodious, and the stairway wide and roomy. The building is in every way superior to the one burned some time before, and is a splendid advertisement for the mechanics who have had charge of building it, and an honor to the School Board that have gone forward with this good work, though they may have had opposition and grumbling to contend with. A. L. Collins was contractor for the whole job ; George Craig the stone work, and did it in his best style ; W. W. Dennis put many neat touches on the wood work.

In the fall of 1871, Irwin Shepard, of Chelsea, Mich., was employed as principal of the schools. He planned the High School course to extend four years of ten months each, making a sum total of forty months ; the requirements for entering the High School were as high then as they have ever been since. In 1878 the school year was reduced from ten months to nine, thereby reducing the course to thirty-six months. In 1879 two terms were taken from it, making it, as it now stands, thirty months long, or but three-fourths of the old course of study.

Mr. Shepard remained four years, taking the class of 1875 through the work he had planned. He then went to Winona, Minn., as principal of the High School there, was promoted to the superintendency of the city schools, and in 1879 became principal of the First State Normal School of Minnesota, a position which he now occupies.

Prof. Shepard was followed by S. F. Farnham, of Oldtown, Me., who remained in charge but one year, when he became cashier of the Charles City Bank, and dwells in Charles City to-day. Then a call was sent to Mr. J. C. Yocum, of Boscobel, Wis. He came in the fall of the centennial year, and, happily for the citizens, has remained even to this day. Under Mr. Yocum's tuition a second class of three members graduated in 1878, a third class of six members in 1879, a fourth class of seven members in 1880, and a fifth and crowning class of fifteen members in 1881.

Three years ago by the advice of Prof. Yocum, an association was formed of the alumni of the school. This society last year numbered thirty-four members.

At the commencement exercises of June 17, 1881, Hon. A. B. F. Hildreth delivered the address before the graduating class, which we would gladly put here in print had we space.

#### PRESENT STATUS OF THE CHARLES CITY SCHOOLS.

*Buildings.*—These are six in number. The principal building on the east side of the Cedar River is of stone, two stories in height with a basement. It contains five commodious school-rooms, one recitation room and the superintendent's office, all of which are heated by furnaces placed in the basement. It accommodates the high school, two grammar schools, and two primaries. It is provided with physical and chemical apparatus, an herbarium, a cabinet of minerals, a small zoological collection, and a good outfit of maps, globes, and other appliances for successful teaching. It is surrounded by a play-ground containing eight city lots. On the same grounds is a two-story frame house containing two rooms, each accommodating sixty primary pupils.

There is a commodious frame house in the Third Ward which will seat fifty pupils. In the eastern part of the independent district, and belonging to the city system, there is a new school-house, the seating capacity of which is about thirty.

On the west side of the river are two school-houses. The principal one is of stone two stories high with two rooms, seated for about sixty pupils each. It is well furnished and commodious and is warmed by a furnace placed in the cellar. Its grounds comprise an entire block, handsomely fenced and containing an abundance of fine shade trees. In one corner of these grounds is located a one-story frame, seating sixty primary pupils.

All of the buildings are well supplied with black-boards, maps, globes, charts, etc.

*Course of Study, Enrollment, etc.*—The course of study covers a period of twelve years, including the high school, and differs in no material respect from the courses found in all well organized city schools.

For several years the annual enrollment of pupils has averaged about 800, with an average daily attendance of nearly 600, and a record of 99.7 per cent. in punctuality. During the year just

closed (June 25, 1882), the entire enrollment has been 809 with an attendance of seventy-two pupils in the high school department.

The enumeration of the Charles City Independent School District in the summer of 1882, gave 485 males and 462 females; total, 947.

That the schools are prosperous and are appreciated by the citizens, is shown by the fact that, during the year, 1,538 adults have visited the various departments to witness the daily school exercises. The city has been unusually fortunate in electing for its school officers men who take a lively interest in educational affairs, who are wisely economical, and judiciously liberal in the expenditure of the public money, and who promote the efficiency of the schools by discouraging frequent changes of teachers.

Present Board of Directors: Hon. A. B. F. Hildreth, President; W. D. Balch, B. W. Stevens, Dr. L. P. Fitch, P. W. Burr and A. R. Spriggs. J. R. Adron is Secretary, and F. A. Roziene Treasurer.

#### BANKS.

*First National Bank.*--The stockholders met at Taylor's Hall Jan. 30, 1871, for the purpose of organization. A. B. F. Hildreth was called to the Chair, and Alex. R. Spriggs was elected Secretary. Articles of association were adopted and signed, and the number of directors determined to be seven. The following were then elected Directors: A. G. Case, John P. Taylor, Milo Gilbert, H. C. Raymond, A. B. F. Hildreth, John Kuck and C. C. Siver. These men elected A. G. Case, Pres.; J. P. Taylor, Vice-Pres.; and C. C. Siver, Cashier. The bank opened for business, April 18 following, under favorable auspices. Capital, \$50,000. Present officers: A. G. Case, President; H. C. Raymond, Vice-President; H. C. Baldwin, Cashier. The other Directors--H. F. Lambert, C. P. Ellis, V. G. Barney, R. M. Waller and A. B. F. Hildreth.

*Charles City National Bank* was organized as a private bank in November, 1876, by J. P. Taylor, S. F. Farnham, H. C. Johnson, E. Austin, and J. P. Austin, by the election of Mr. Taylor, President; Mr. Austin, Vice-President, and Mr. Farnham, Cashier. Capital, \$50,000. In 1882 this institution was organized as a National Bank, with the same officers, and Frank V. Taylor as Assistant Cashier. Directors--J. V. Taylor, E. Austin, S. F. Farnham, F. V. Taylor and J. P. Austin. This bank was first opened near

the northeast corner of the park, in the building now occupied by the express and telegraph companies; and in 1878 it was moved to its present locality, near the *Intelligencer* office. James G. Fisher, of Windsor, N. Y., is a prominent stockholder in this bank.

*Bank of Reiniger & Balch.*—This bank was established Oct. 1, 1865, with a capital of \$10,000, by Mitchell, Fairfield, & Co., the firm comprising George Mitchell, now of Milwaukee, Hon. Wm. B. Fairfield, now deceased, and Wm. D. Balch. On the first of October, 1866, Mr. Mitchell sold out to E. C. Chapin, and the business was continued under the name of E. C. Chapin & Co., until 1873, when Mr. Chapin sold his interest to the other partners, and the firm name was changed to Fairfield & Balch, with \$25,000 capital stock, and Skinner & Fairfield, of Hudson, N. Y., as special partners. In 1876 Judge R. G. Reiniger purchased the interest of Judge Fairfield, since which time the bank has been conducted by Reiniger & Balch. This institution is well and favorably known, as the most reliable men have always had it in charge. B. A. Wood is Cashier. In October, 1881, Messrs. Reiniger & Balch bought out Montague & Smith at Mason City, changing their bank to the "First National Bank of Mason City," of which Mr. Balch is Vice-President.

*The Floyd County Savings Bank* was organized Aug. 21, 1873, with the following stockholders: A. B. F. Hildreth, A. G. Case, J. W. Lehmkuhl, W. G. Tripp, S. B. Starr, J. G. Patterson, S. M. Cook, C. Merckel, John Kuck, H. C. Raymond, C. P. Ellis, and F. A. Roziene. These gentlemen elected A. B. F. Hildreth, for President, F. A. Roziene, Vice-President, and H. C. Baldwin, Secretary and Treasurer. Capital stock subscribed, \$50,000. The General Assembly of 1873-'74 passed a new banking law, identical with the national banking law in its provisions, excepting, of course, that it did not allow the issue of currency. It requires all the capital stock to be paid up. Accordingly, on the 31st of August following, this bank was reorganized, with the following stockholders: A. B. F. Hildreth, H. C. Baldwin, C. P. Ellis, C. D. Ellis, A. E. Ellis, H. C. Raymond, D. Townsend, A. G. Case, W. H. Dyke, M. G. Egloff, W. H. Hausberg, J. Kuck, J. W. Lehmkuhl, J. G. Patterson, R. G. Reiniger, S. B. Starr, B. W. Stevens, J. H. Stolle, and F. A. Roziene. Capital, \$25,000, paid up. The directors formerly elected served until the second Tuesday of January, 1875, when the following were chosen: A. B.

F. Hildreth, J. W. Lehmkuhl, J. G. Patterson, H. C. Baldwin, F. A. Roziene, C. D. Ellis. This board chose the following as officers: A. B. F. Hildreth, President; J. G. Patterson, Vice-President; F. A. Roziene, Secretary and Treasurer.

The present Trustees are: A. B. F. Hildreth, S. B. Starr, S. M. Cook, B. W. Stevens, H. C. Baldwin, John Kuck, F. A. Roziene; and the officers are, A. B. F. Hildreth, President; S. B. Starr, Vice-President; F. A. Roziene, Secretary and Treasurer.

The bank is located on the east side of Main street, opposite the middle of the park, and is a great convenience to those of limited means who desire their savings taken care of and made productive. Women and children find it a good place to deposit their surplus moneys, jewelry, etc.

#### HOTELS.

Next after John Blunt's log "hotel," the Magnolia House was opened, in 1857, by Smith & Goddard, and then Kelly's Hotel. Both these were burned in the great fire of 1862. Soon after this, Mr. Kelly commenced rebuilding his house, but was interrupted by a trip to California. The size of this building was to be 60 x 80 feet and four stories high, and the material to be brick or stone. This structure, however, never got higher than the foundation walls. In the meantime, other hotels were established.

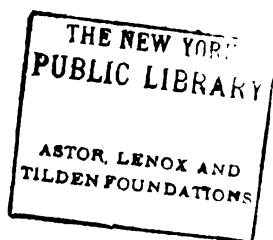
At the present time, the principal hotels in Charles City are the Union House, kept by Charles Shaw; and it is a first-class hotel in every respect. The Leonard House is near the depot. The Park House is eligibly located, near the west corner of the park.

When Mr. Shaw purchased the hotel, he remodeled and refurnished the entire building, and it is now the finest hotel in Northwestern Iowa. It has forty elegant sleeping-rooms, one beautiful parlor, and one of the most pleasant and commodious dining-rooms in the State. The kitchen is a model of neatness, and Mr. Shaw employs the best cooks and waiters.

The building is of limestone and brick; is two stories high above a basement. It contains two large and convenient sample rooms for the accommodation of traveling and commercial men. There are also two finely-furnished billiard-parlors connected with the hotel, and a commodious office, baggage-room, closets and writing-rooms.



*A. B. Greeley*



Mr. Shaw, the proprietor of this hotel is a thorough gentleman, and pays particular attention to the wants and comforts of his guests, and takes pride in making his hotel the best in Northern Iowa.

## RELIGIOUS.

*The First Baptist Church and Society* is one of the oldest church organizations in Charles City. Articles of incorporation of the church and society were adopted Feb. 8, 1858, which provided for the management of the affairs of the church, for the admission of members, etc., in the usual manner. The first officers of the church were elected at this same meeting, Feb. 8, 1858, and were as follows: Trustees, Sanford Harwood, Milo Gilbert and V. W. Baker; Secretary, G. H. Whitehead; Treasurer, Harvey Kellogg. The present officers are: Trustees, C. Danforth, J. M. Dutton, Abram Smith; Secretary, O. Pomeroy; Treasurer, G. H. Whitehead. The society built a church when they first organized, completing it in January, 1858. In 1871 this was moved back, an addition built in front, and the whole entirely refitted.

Sept. 21, 1860, the Cedar Valley Baptist Association held their 5th anniversary with the Baptist church at St. Charles City, continuing three days. The attendance was large, there being present 150 persons from abroad, of whom sixteen were clergymen. The season was one of unusual interest and the meeting was one of extraordinary success, in all respects. With the growth of the city and the church, other important meetings have been held here.

*First Methodist Episcopal Church.*—The first meeting of the church was held in an unfinished log barn; Mr. and Mrs. Howard were living in the house at the time. John Ball was a Methodist minister, and was passing through Charles City on his road to Elkader for provisions. He was requested to preach there; but as there were nothing but log houses in the town, they did not know where to hold the meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Howard finally consented to hold the meeting in their own house; and so the meeting was to be held in a fortnight from that time. There were only three members at that time, but all the people in the neighborhood came to the meeting, and were delighted. It was a splendid thing for the country, as the people were running wild, as is usually the case with the early settlement of a



new country. There was but one chair in the house, and the men sawed blocks and placed puncheons on them, and by covering them with shawls, made them as comfortable as possible. It was very cold weather, and there was no stove or even a fire-place. They were wondering what they would do for fire when all at once they saw Mr. and Mrs. Bigelow coming, carrying a large kettle on a pole between them which proved to be full of flaming charcoal; This was placed in the room and it furnished warmth enough to make the room comfortable. They had a successful meeting and about a year afterward a church was organized.

The first stationed preacher was Wm. P. Holbrook, appointed by the Iowa Conference in the fall of 1854. The first class was organized in October, 1855; class leader, Newman Dutcher; Mary L. Dutcher, J. M. Howard, Harriett M. Howard and Rachel Kellogg were the members. The first quarterly conference met in Oct. 1856. The second pastor was Rev. I. D. Rust; R. L. Ricker followed, Revs. J. D. Witted, T. W. Thurston, G. Larkin, W. F. Paxton, Wm. Smith, S. M. Bronson, were the next to follow. They served one year each with one exception, the minutes do not show who served two years. Until 1866 the church here was connected with the church at Floyd; at that time it was organized into a separate charge. Rev. H. S. Church was the pastor, serving one year.

In the summer of 1867 the work of erecting the present church building was begun. The corner-stone was laid Sept. 9, 1867, Rev. John W. Clinton officiating, assisted by the pastor. The church basement was completed and dedicated Jan. 24, 1869. The balance of the church was not completed until the following summer. W. P. Watkins, was pastor in charge from September, 1867, until September, 1869. Under his pastorate the church membership increased from seventy to one hundred and seventy-four, and the church edifice was erected. The cost of this structure, with furniture, lots, etc., was \$14,555. It was dedicated Nov. 28, 1869, by E. O. Haven, D. D. Some time after leaving here Mr. Watkins, in a fit of insanity, drowned himself. Rev. J. B. Casebear was appointed pastor in 1868, and served two years. Rev. L. H. Carhart followed two years, and during his pastorate one of the most remarkable revivals in the history of the church occurred. Over 100 persons were converted and united with the church. Rev. A. C. Manwell, from Wisconsin, served two years. Rev. R. N. Earhart followed the next two years. September, 1877, Rev. J. S.

Anderson was appointed, and in the middle of his second year he withdrew from the ministry and from the church, and his year was completed by Rev. John Bowman, who was at one time an independent candidate for Congress. He is a man of great controversial powers and energy; he ran against Henry O. Pratt, who was elected and served two terms, after which he was converted and has since become a popular preacher and is now located at Toledo, Iowa. F. X. Miller, in 1879, was appointed pastor and remained two years; in the fall of 1881 George Elliott was appointed minister in charge, and is at the present time pastor, and is a graduate of Cornell College, Iowa. The present officers are: Trustees—Edward Klinetop, H. C. Ireland, J. A. Pitcher, M. Martin, Geo. Cairns, C. C. Crowell, H. F. Miles, John Gordon and John Spalding. Stewards—Geo. Cairns, S. P. Yeomans, M. D., M. H. Howard, John Gordon, J. A. Becker, H. F. Miles, John Spalding, H. C. Ireland, Wm. and F. Morse; Recording Steward, M. H. Howard; Supt. S. S., E. D. Ruggles; Treas., W. E. Holbrook; Class-Leader, J. P. North; Chorister, Prof. J. C. Yocum; Organist, Miss Emma Ruggles. The church is in a very healthy condition; the present membership of the church is 209; the Sabbath-school membership is about 200, with an average attendance of about 150.

*German Society of M. E. Church.*—The commencement of this church was in 1864. John Kuck and wife were the first to move in this matter, meetings being held at their house, till 1865, when the first pastor came and located among the people and the society was organized. The first officers were: Trustees, John Kuck, Alvin Berg, H. Stover, Fred Schlick, and Geo. Muller; Treasurer and Clerk, John Kuck; Class-Leader and Steward, John Kuck; Pastor, Rev. J. G. Achenbach, who served two years. The church edifice was built in 1868 and dedicated July 4, of that year. Size 26 x 40 feet, cost \$3,300. Rev. H. R. Fiegenbaum was the next pastor, and served three years; the church was built during his pastorate. Chas. Kruckholm came in 1870 and served two years as pastor. F. Fischer followed the next two years. Rev. E. J. French served one year; E. Uhel followed as pastor, three years. H. Kaste, served the next three years. Rev. A. Brenner is the present pastor. There were more or less revivals each year, the most successful ones occurring under Revs. H. R. Fiegenbaum

and Uhel. The present membership is about 200. There is a Sabbath-school in connection with the church; Fred Pfeiffer is the present Superintendent. There are about eighty scholars, who attend regularly.

When first organized this was called the Charles City Mission and included the territory of four counties, Floyd, Mitchell, Chickasaw and Bremer, over which the first pastor traveled. The church is now in a prosperous and healthy condition, its membership being in Charles City and near by.

This society finding its growth so great have for the accommodation of its communicants, erected a second church some six miles from the village, where a goodly congregation worship; Rev. Bremer is the pastor, and services are held Sabbath afternoons by him and local preachers. This church was built in 1881, size 26 x 40 feet, costing \$1,500. There is also a Sabbath-school in connection with this church, numbering about thirty children; the Superintendent is A. Hirsch.

This church was the first mission organized in what is now called the Charles City District, comprising some twenty-five counties.

*The First Congregationalist Society.*—This was organized at a meeting held Oct. 29, 1858, at the house of Rev. J. H. Windsor. Those present at this first meeting were Rev. J. H. Windsor, Samuel Hackley and wife, Josiah Knight and wife, Ira Brackett and wife. Articles of faith were adopted, and subscribed to by the above parties.

Rev. Mr. Windsor was their first pastor, and he was followed July 1, 1862, by Rev. William A. Adams. During his pastorate the society was incorporated (Sept. 15, 1862) with the following members: Samuel Hackley, George C. Dean, William A. Adams, William B. Fairfield, A. B. F. Hildreth, G. G. Rieniger, Milo Gilbert, A. W. French and W. B. Covell. At this meeting a constitution and compact were adopted.

In April, 1863, A. B. F. Hildreth and William B. Fairfield were selected as a committee to procure a site for a church edifice. The society had previously met in Masonic Hall, over the present express office. Oct. 30, 1864, Rev. D. N. Bordwell, of the Congregationalist church, at Lansing, Ia., was invited to fill the pulpit, and he at once accepted the call. He remained five years and was very much beloved by his congregation. He worked faithfully for the welfare of the church, and the membership was greatly

increased. During his pastorate the present church was built. It was completed in the fall of 1867, and will seat about 350 persons. The building committee were William B. Fairfield, E. C. Chapin, C. W. Fletcher and John A. Mitchell. The church was dedicated Jan. 28, by Rev. Lyman Whiting, of Dubuque. The music on the occasion was conducted by Col. L. L. Huntley, of the same place, formerly of Charles City.

The membership of the church had reached about 100 when Mr. Bordwell resigned in 1869, and Aug. 6, this year, Rev. H. B. Woodworth, of Ellington, Conn., was called to the pulpit, at a salary of \$1,200. He accepted the invitation and remained till Sept. 6, 1872. He was a man of marked ability, and was very popular with his congregation. He resigned to go to Decorah, Ia., and was succeeded Nov. 24, 1872, by Rev. J. A. Cruzan. Mr. Cruzan was a successful minister, and especially popular with the young people. He left after preaching one year, going to Ohio, from there he went to Portland, Oregon, and he is now in the Sandwich Islands, receiving a salary of \$3,000 a year. There was then an interim of several months when the society held no regular services. Rev. I. Wadhams, of Belle Plaine, Ia., was the next pastor, being called Oct. 23, 1874. Mr. Wadhams was a very earnest worker, and stood high with the congregation. He remained about three years and a half, and was followed by Rev. N. M. Clute, at a salary of \$1,500. Mr. Clute was very well liked and was one of the strongest workers that have filled the pulpit of the Congregationalist church.

The present pastor, Rev. A. G. Brande, came in January, 1882. The society is fairly prosperous. The male members of the church number 75, the females, 115; total, 190. The Sunday-school connected with the church has a membership of 200, and is very prosperous. J. S. Trigg is the present Superintendent.

*Grace Mission, Protestant Episcopal.*—In 1872 Bishop Lee organized Grace Mission, at Charles City, Ia., and appointed T. A. Hand, Warden; Abner Root, Treasurer; B. F. Cheney, Secretary. The Rev. Wm. Wright, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Nashua, held services on alternate Sundays until December, 1876, when the Rev. Hale Townsend held services on alternate Sundays, he being a missionary of the Northern Convocation of the Diocese of Iowa, Rector of St. John's parish, Mason City. In 1877 there were twenty families connected with this branch of the Episcopal church, and the mission procured grounds for a church edifice,

but have not built a church. In 1876 the Rev. S. C. Gaynor took charge of the mission, dividing his time between the churches of Charles City and Mason City, but he removed to Silver Cliff, Col., in April, 1880, since which time the mission has had only occasional services and no settled clergyman.

*St. John's Lutheran Church*, was organized February, 1872. The officers were: Henry Nieman, W. Harring, C. Boeck, J. H. Stolle, Trustees; C. Wilke, Pastor; he remained in charge about three years. In June 1872, the church edifice was commenced and on Dec. 21, 1873, it was dedicated. It is 28 x 50 feet, and cost \$2,500. There is a membership now of about eighty souls. Also Sabbath-school each Sunday, before service; there are about forty scholars; the Superintendent is Rev. E. Casselman. The present officers are: F. Karl, F. Turow, E. Schwart and F. Schuhknecht, Trustees; F. Karl, Treasurer; F. Turow, Secretary.

Edward Berg was the first secretary of this society, and held his office until he resigned two years ago; he has been a zealous and efficient officer.

In February last the society celebrated its tenth anniversary by a jubilee, on which occasion Mr. Berg read the history of the church, showing the many trials it had passed through, and how to the grace of God it had survived them all.

The next pastor was P. Vogel, who came in October, 1875, and served until April, 1876, when on account of ill health he retired; he was followed by F. Mutschmann, who remained till April, 1879, when he was removed by the synod. On application of the members of the congregation, he was followed by the present pastor, E. Casselman, who was installed in June, 1879. The condition of the church is very prosperous..

*Christian Church*.—This body was organized Jan. 25, 1862, with a membership of seventeen, under Elders John Kain and N. A. McConnell, since which time the pastors have been, N. E. Corey, J. Hurd, G. W. Sweeny, L. S. Brown, D. H. Gary, J. K. Connell, F. Walden, and others. The church edifice is a neat stone structure, and was built in 1866. Average membership, about ninety to 100.

*Church of the Immaculate Conception, Catholic*.—The first services in the county, according to the ritual of the Catholic church, took place at the residence of Henry Ingram, in Floyd Township, in 1854. The family of Philip Sharkey was at that time the only other one joining in this worship. The next year that of James

Welch was added. Father Slattery was the priest. Services were held from time to time until about the beginning of the war, when a resident priest, Father Martin, located in Charles City, and administered to an increasing flock, first in Taylor's Hall, then in the court-house and in private houses. He was an Englishman by birth, and a very talented man. Rev. McManus, in 1865, was the next priest, then Urbani, a native of France, who was here about fourteen months, 1868-'9, and then, in 1870, Rev. Feely, a native of Ireland, settled here, remaining until 1878, when he was succeeded by Father F. J. Gunn, the present pastor. Mr. Feely, soon after his arrival, commenced the erection of a church building, 120x45 feet, at about three squares southeast of the public square. When the foundation walls were completed, the work ceased for want of funds. A question being raised by a member of the church, as to what had become of the proceeds of certain entertainments, in the autumn of 1877, a committee was appointed, consisting of one Catholic and one non-Catholic, who investigated the accounts, and found that Father Feely had expended legitimately, not only all moneys coming into his hands, but had also advanced several hundred dollars from his own purse.

The rear portion of the foundation was roofed over and finished off the first year, so that religious services can be held there temporarily; but the prospect is bright now for an early completion of the structure. The plan contemplates a brick building, with one tower, 150 feet high, one seventy-seven feet and one fifty-seven feet, the whole building to cost about \$16,000. At present, about ninety families or more worship here, and a Sunday-school is well attended, where Father Gunn administers instruction. The religious services here are held about three Sundays each month, high mass at eleven A. M. The congregation is named the "Church of the Immaculate Conception, of Charles City."

November, 1871, a Catholic fair was held in Charles City, which netted \$608. Great interest was manifested in the votes for "the most deserving gentleman," and also "the most deserving lady."

The prizes were a gold-headed cane for one and a silver tea set for the other. As the time drew near at which the polls should be closed, there was considerable excitement, and \$5 and \$10 worth of votes would be put in at a time. J. S. Root received the cane, having a majority of ninety-eight over P. O'Hair. The cane brought \$124. Miss Mary O'Hair received the tea set, having a majority of 116 over Mrs. Frank Lenz. The tea set brought \$149

Father Francis Joseph Gunn, Priest of the above described church, is a native of Strokestown, County Roscommon, Ireland. born Dec. 26, 1851, a son of Thomas and Katharine Gunn, *nee* Murray. He attended school in his native town until sixteen years of age, when he took a three years' classical course at a private school. He then entered All Hallow's College in the city of Dublin, graduating from that institution, and was ordained into the holy priesthood, June 24, 1877. On Sept. 29, of that year he landed in New York City, and after spending one month in travel he came to Iowa, locating in Burlington. He traveled through the States of Iowa, Missouri and Illinois until he was appointed priest of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, at Nashua, Chickasaw County, Ia. He also had charge of the church at Wapsie, Howard County. Since coming here Father Gunn has labored earnestly and faithfully in the church and has succeeded in doing much good, both spiritually and financially. He is a man of superior mental endowments, and fine oratorical powers. Through his untiring zeal arrangements have been made for the erection of a new church, and the work is being rapidly pushed forward.

*Evangelical Association.*—A church or religious organization by the above name exists in Charles City, meeting in a small building on the west side.

*Floyd County Bible Society.*—A society bearing the above name was organized in Charles City in 1858 or 1859, Samuel Huckley, or Dr. J. M. Parsons was the first President: J. W. Smith was Secretary, and C. W. Atkinson, Treasurer. The same officers were continued for several successive years.

#### SOCIETIES.

*Almond Chapter, No. 53, R. A. M.*—This chapter was organized Dec. 11, 1869, with the following officers: H. B., E. A. Haskell; K., Abner Root; S., J. F. O. Smith; Secretary, E. Winne; Treasurer, H. Ely; C. H., W. G. Tripp; P. S., A. Campbell; R. A. C., A. N. George; G. M. 1st V., S. A. Allen; G. M. 2d V., Hanson Ely; G. M. 3d V., A. B. Rodgers; S., E. S. Blake. Mr. Haskell held the office of H. P. until Nov. 4, 1870, when W. G. Tripp was elected to the position which he has held ever since. H. N. Crain succeeded Mr. Winne as Secretary, Feb. 28, 1870; J. F. Parkhurst followed Sept. 18, 1871; M. G. Egloff, Jan. 15, 1872, and E. B. Dyke, Sept. 3, 1877, who still holds the office.

The following are the present officers: H. P., W. G. Tripp; K., J. P. Taylor; S., H. C. Baldwin; Secretary, E. B. Dyke; Treasurer, E. Werder; C. H., G. R. May; R. A. C., V. Baltuff; P. S., A. N. George; G. M. 1st V., Jos. Hecht; G. M. 2d V., John Ferguson; G. M. 3d V., J. N. Waller; Tyler, Thos. Simmons. The regular convocations occur on the second Monday evening of each month. The council degrees were conferred on the chapter Nov. 18, 1878.

*St. Charles Lodge, No. 141, A. F. & A. M.* was organized Oct. 1, 1858, at Masonic Hall, on the site of the present express office, with a charter membership of fifteen. Their names were, Abner Root, E. B. C. Wright, S. W. Stanley, John Blunt, Thomas Simmons, H. C. Stinson, Robert G. Reiniger, G. G. Reiniger, Edwin Klinetop, H. C. Smith, D. W. Poindexter, A. L. Collins, C. H. Haskell, Seth Hungerford and I. M. Montgomery. Abner Root was appointed W. M., to open the lodge. The charter was issued June 8, 1859. The first officers elected under this charter were: S. W. Stanley, W. M; E. B. C. Wright, S. W; D. W. Poindexter, J. W; E. P. Harrington, Treasurer; A. L. Collins, Secretary; R. G. Reiniger, S. D; D. Gilbert, J. D; Thomas Simmons, Tyler. The present membership is seventy-six. The present officers are: George R. May, W. M; W. M. Dennis, S. W; J. L. Burnett, J. W; W. G. Tripp, Treasurer; W. W. Dennis, Secretary; Charles Schroeder, S. D; A. H. Treat, J. D; T. Simmons, Tyler. The lodge is in good condition financially. It meets at Masonic Hall on the Thursday on or before the full moon.

*Excelsior Chapter, No. 51, Order of the Eastern Star.*—This society has for its object the promotion of social intercourse, mutual assistance, and the exercise of charity and benevolence. It is in many respects similar to the Masonic fraternity, and is in fact closely connected with that society. Its membership is confined to the wives, mothers and sisters of Masons. There are about fifteen chapters in Iowa, of which four are in Floyd County. They are located at Marble Rock, Rockford, Nora Springs and Charles City. The fourth annual convention of the Grand Chapter of Iowa was held at Charles City with this chapter May 10 and 11, 1881, which of course was an honor to the entertaining chapter. The convention was held in due form, and there were twenty-five official, as well as several visiting delegates present.

Excelsior Chapter was organized June 18, 1878, at Masonic Hall. The meeting was called by Mrs. Jennie Mathews, of Rock-



ford, who acted as presiding officer, and organized the chapter. The officers first chosen were as follows: Mrs. O. N. Williams, W. M.; Eugene B. Dyke, W. P.; Mrs. N. M. Miner, A. M.; Mrs. M. E. Reiniger, Treasurer; Mrs. M. T. Dennis, Secretary; Mrs. N. Lender, Conductress; Mrs. M. J. May, A. C.; Mrs. Julia A. Raymond, Warder; Mrs. P. F. Farnham, Adah; Mrs. Bina Wood, Ruth; Mrs. Fannie Smith, Esther; Mrs. J. A. Campbell, Martha; Miss Sue Harwood, Electa; Mrs. E. B. Dyke, Organist. There were in all about sixty charter members. Mrs. Williams was the Matron of the Chapter continuously until January, 1882, when Mrs. Eugene B. Dyke was elected to the office. The other officers at present are as follows: Eli Brownell, W. P.; Mrs. Eunice Mitchell, A. M.; Mrs. E. T. Bort, Treasurer; Mrs. E. R. Spaulding, Secretary; Mrs. M. J. May, Conductress; Mrs. Josie Waller, A. C.; Mrs. M. Tripp, Adah; Mrs. Bina Wood, Ruth; Mrs. Emily Ducharm, Esther; Mrs. E. P. Crane, Martha; Mrs. Augusta Darby, Electa; E. B. Bort, Warder. There are now about sixty members. The chapter is financially even, and is prosperous in every way. It meets at Masonic Hall the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

*Charles City Lodge, No. 158, A. O. U. W.*, was organized April 6, 1878, with thirty members. First officers were: P. M. W., J. E. Rich; M. W., P. W. Burr; Recorder, J. S. Bradley; Foreman, M. Martin; Overseer, C. E. Ferguson; Financier, Jacob Baier; Receiver, C. M. Ferguson. Present officers: P. M. W., Ira K. Lee; M. W., P. W. Burr; Recorder, J. S. Bradley; Foreman, Wm. Gierman; Overseer, W. N. Fisher; Receiver, S. F. Farnham; Financier, L. M. Loper. Meets Friday nights of each week in the council-room. Present membership twenty-six.

*Charles City Lodge, No. 4, I. O. G. T.*—This society was organized April 28, 1859, by Deputy G. W. C. T. Detwiler, now G. W. C. T. of Kansas. The first principal officers were, I. W. Card (now of Mason City), W. C. T.; T. A. Hand, Secretary; Miss Mary Cheney, W. V. T. The society organized with a large membership, which soon reached the incredible number of over 300. During the war however, the interest died out and about 1864 the lodge disbanded. The meetings were held in Cheney & Brackett's Hall, now a part of the Union House. After the

hall was enlarged it was called Union House Hall, or Gilbert's Hall. Some time afterward the lodge was revived, and after running for a time, disbanded again, about 1867 or 1868. Soon after this it organized a third time, by E. A. Teeling, and met for a long time in Odd Fellows' Hall. The officers were Mrs. Mary Hackley, James Jackson,, Silas Card, Miss Jennie C. Jackson, E. P. Harrington, Samuel Hackley, T. A. Hand, Miss Emma Meacham, G. H. Whitehead, Mrs. L. A. Hildreth, A. B. F. Hildreth, Mrs. A. B. Smith. Mr. Teeling was called away on business for some time, and the society went down again. In February, 1880, it came to life once more, and now has a membership of seventy-six in good standing, meeting every Friday evening in Temperance Hall, which is in a one-story building on the east side of the park. The present officers are, E. A. Teeling, W. C. T.; Miss Goodlander, W. V. T.; C. C. Crosby, Secretary; Miriam Davidson, Treasurer; James Ferguson, Financial Secretary; H. Fisher, Chaplain; Harry Baltuff, Marshal.

The Grand Lodge of the I. O. G. T. of the State of Iowa is to meet in Charles City next year, 1883.

*The Floyd County Woman's Christian Temperance Union*, was organized April 2, 1880, at Charles City, Miss F. X. Miller, President, Mrs. E. C. Spaulding, Secretary, Mrs. E. A. Teeling, Treasurer. There was a vice-president in each township whose duty it was to urge the formation of auxiliary unions in places where there were none. There are now seven unions in the county, all doing much work for the temperance cause. The present officers of this organization are Mrs. J. C. Lockwood, President, Pleasant Grove; Mrs. Rebecca J. Wilson, Secretary, Charles City; Mrs. F. Stevens, Treasurer, Riverton.

*Woman's Christain Temperance Union of Charles City.*—This society was first organized in September, 1875. Its first officers were: President, Mrs. William Hunter; Secretary, Mrs. B. F. Wright; Treasurer, Mrs. J. P. North. The object of this association is the suppression of the vice of intemperance with God's blessing. This union has helped to organize a large number of other sister unions throughout the county; and they have zealously labored for seven years for the elevation of man from the influence of intemperance. They now see some fruit of their labors—there not being now a saloon in the city. Present officers: President, Mrs. E. Aspinwall; Secretary, Ellen L. Slocum; Treasurer, Mrs. L. Hartsham.

*Grand Army of the Republic.*—A post of this order was organized in the fall of 1866, by E. A. Reiniger, Hon. R. G. Reiniger, T. H. Saxton, H. A. Humphrey, C. A. Slocum and C. W. Fletcher. Judge Reiniger was chosen Commander; Mr. Humphrey, Officer of the Day, and E. A. Reiniger, Lieutenant of the Guards. Regular meetings were held for a year or two, and occasional meetings for several years more.

*Charles City Guards, Company F, Sixth Regiment, I. N. G.*—This company was organized in September, 1877, as Company L, Sixth Regiment, with fifty members. The officers were: Captain, Jacob Baier; First Lieutenant, H. C. Baldwin; Second Lieutenant, H. F. Miles; Sergeants, E. B. Dyke, G. R. May, M. Wilbur, L. F. Smith; Corporals, Charles Kicherer, Wm. Gauge, A. H. Treat, E. J. Gilbert. The officers of the business organization were: President, P. W. Burr; Vice-President, S. F. Farnham; Secretary, W. L. Palmer; Treasurer, A. R. Spriggs. During the coming winter, the militia law was changed, and Company L disbanded.

April 8, 1878, Company F was organized with sixty-three members, and the following officers were elected: Captain, E. B. Dyke; First Lieutenant, J. L. Black; Second Lieutenant, C. M. Ferguson; First Sergeant, C. L. Dyke; Duty Sergeants, C. B. Hamlin, Alexander R. Spriggs, E. A. Teeling, Oliver Toncha; Corporals, Ed. Winne, Jr., Warren Drummond, A. D. Kellogg, E. Brubaker, E. E. Peterson, Geo. Collins, Arthur Stohl, Geo. McGregor. In the succeeding March (1879), Captain E. B. Dyke was elected Major of the Sixth Regiment, and First Sergeant C. L. Dyke succeeded him as Captain. In September of this year the company took part in the first regimental encampment at Osage, and became noted as "foragers," especially in milking the prize cows on the fair grounds. At the prize drill Company F was awarded first money as the "best drilled and best disciplined company in the regiment," an honor which was well earned. The next year the regiment camped at Charles City. Lieut. C. M. Ferguson meantime had been commissioned as Regimental Quartermaster, and W. L. Palmer appointed Sergeant Major; Oliver Toncha, Color Sergeant; C. H. Hoard, Drum Major, and I. S. Large, Fife Major, quite an honorable list for one company.

In January, 1881, Captain Dyke having resigned, H. C. Baldwin was elected his successor; P. M. Wilbur and Chas. Snyder being Lieutenants. In August, 1881, a change again occurred, the commissioned officers resigning and C. L. Dyke again becom-

ing Captain, Arthur Stohl and J. D. Fowler being his Lieutenants, The regiment this year camped at Des Moines, with the balance of the Second Brigade. In May, 1881, Lient. Fowler resigned and E. E. Smith was elected to succeed him. The Second Brigade camped in June at Waterloo, and Company F acquitted itself with credit. The present officers of the company are : Captain, C. L. Dyke ; First Lieutenant, W. A. Stohl ; Second Lientenant, E. E. Smith ; First Sergeant, A. G. Aldridge ; Duty Sergeants, Bartley Morgan, H. F. Murphy, Anson J. Leach, Erwin Perry ; Corporals, Abner Whitney, Wm. Goodrode, C. W. Collins, A. D. Kellogg.

*Charles City Cemetery Association.*—This association was first organized Dec. 29, 1857, for the purpose of purchasing and platting a piece of ground for the interment of the dead, and to superintend the sale of the lots. The first officers elected were: David Wiltse, President; J. G. Patterson, Secretary; John Muir, Treasurer; Abner Root, Harvey Kellogg and E. P. Harrington, Trustees. Walter M. Stuart, who had served as sexton for several years, was formally appointed sexton by this board. Subsequently the organization almost died out, until 1865, when a reorganization was effected, since which time the association has kept itself active. The annual meetings occur on the first Monday of January. The old organization purchased eighty acres—now the western part of the cemetery—for \$340, to be paid for as the income from the sale of lots would warrant; but during its existence, which became merely nominal, there was no income, while about ninety interments were made. These interments were irregular and unrecorded, so that eventually it required considerable trouble to identify and record them. Since 1865, Mr. V. W. Baker, the efficient Secretary, has kept a faithful record of the name of each person buried in the cemetery, the number of the lot, his or her age, nativity, cause of death, etc. For this purpose he surveyed the grounds and platted them as neatly as the art of surveying requires. His maps are beautiful.

Wm. N. Fisher, subsequently devoted a piece of his land, northeast of the first plat, to burial purposes, and more recently the association has purchased and added nearly two and a half acres northeast of that. On this a residence now stands, which is to be removed, while a lot is provided across the way eastward for a sexton's residence. A portion of the new

grounds, including Mr. Fisher's, seems flat and wet, but it does hold standing water. The plan of the grounds, as surveyed, is very beautiful, and ere many years, when the walks are improved and the present designs for improvement carried out, it will equal any cemetery in the West in respect to tasteful appearance. For the purpose of so beautifying these grounds, the ladies of Charles City have formed an association, an account of which we next proceed to give.

The present officers of the Cemetery Association are: Joel W. Smith, President; Nathan Phillips, Treasurer; V. W. Baker, Secretary; Trustees: B. W. Stevens, George F. Boulton and E. A. Teeling.

The Catholic cemetery is a beautiful piece of ground of three or four acres, about a mile and a half southeast of the city on the Chickasaw road, northeast of the river.

We ought to state here that twenty-eight interments were made in the old burying ground, in the western portion of the city, from which all the remains have been removed to the new cemetery except those of Mrs. Crosby and child, an Irishman, name not given, and, possibly, one or two others. In early days, when it was undecided what ground should be permanently chosen for a cemetery, some desired the fine locality afterward occupied by Hon. Wm. B. Fairfield, southeast of the city; and by some a lot near the present depot was talked of. In the mean time a few burials were made on private property.

The first burial in the new cemetery was that of John Wyman, who was drowned.

*Ladies' Cemetery Improvement Association of Charles City.*—Pursuant to notice, a number of ladies and gentlemen met June 8, 1882, at the council room, to organize a ladies' cemetery improvement association. Judge Reiniger was called to the Chair, and J. S. Bradley appointed Secretary. Committees were appointed for various purposes, and at the next meeting, June 15, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and the following officers elected: Mrs. M. E. Reiniger, President; Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Hering, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. M. E. Baker, Recording Secretary; Mrs. V. W. Baker, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. E. M. Waller, Treasurer; Executive Committee: A. B. Hildreth, B. W. Stevens, Mrs. R. Kellog, and Miss Amanda Waller. All the moneys which have so far been raised have been by subscription, and this has been liberal, nearly \$200 having been contributed to their fund. Almost

half this amount has been expended in cutting out walks preparatory to graveling. It is proposed to raise additional funds by public entertainments of some kind.

*Relief Society.*—On Thanksgiving day, 1871, a committee of eight women were appointed to take steps toward organizing a relief society. They met twice, adopted a constitution, and published an appeal to the citizens. The above committee comprised Mesdames Charles Slocum, T. Conway, D. H. Saxton, B. F. Wright, B. McDonald, Schroeder, J. M. Stowe and L. S. Brown. This society has given public entertainments, and was favored with contributions for the poor, to the great credit of the citizens. And now, annually, as this Puritanic festival comes round, the citizens assemble in some hall or church, and appoint a committee to distribute the offerings the more favored willingly give. Long may this be a custom of the generous and God-fearing men and women of this New England-like town, Charles City!

*Charles City Fire Company.*—This company was organized Dec. 14, 1881, and the following persons were duly elected its officers: A. R. Sprague, President; D. Townsend, Vice-President; W. D. Burnham, Secretary and Treasurer. The company has both honorary and active members, the honorary paying \$1 per year for the support and maintenance of the company, while the active members do all the work. The officers of the active company are: Foreman, Capt. H. C. Baldwin; First Assistant Foreman, P. M. Wilbur; Second Assistant Foreman, Geo. Collins; Nozzleman, W. D. Burnham; Investigating Committee, Peter Rose, E. B. Perry and Joseph Dunster. There are about sixty honorary members and about thirty active members. Meetings are held the nights of the third Tuesday of every month. Officers are elected annually. This company has a chemical engine of about one hundred gallons' capacity, costing about \$1,400. There is also a hook and ladder apparatus which belongs to this company, consisting of common and adjustable ladders, ropes, buckets, etc. They are well prepared to do battle with the fiery element. They also have a good and comfortable engine-house, which is kept in good order. The engine-house and engine-keeper, who must be an active member, and who is appointed by the Common Council, is H. C. Hoard.

Oct. 5 a test was made of the new fire apparatus just purchased at Chicago. Several loads of dry-goods boxes, barrels, etc., and straw and shavings were piled up, and the whole thoroughly saturated with kerosine oil. The engine, already charged, was stationed

about a hundred feet from this mass of combustibles. Fire was set to the latter, in a minute it was all ablaze, the hose was turned upon it, and in one minute more the flames were completely subdued. The machine holds one hundred gallons of water, is charged with carbonic-acid gas, and is always ready for use. It can be re-charged in three or four minutes.

*Public Library.*—As early as 1857 the establishment of a public library in this place was urged, and at times afterward the matter was brought up, until Nov. 11, 1871, when a meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a library association under the laws of the State. J. G. Patterson, C. S. Otis and E. A. Teeling were appointed a committee to draft articles of incorporation. It was proposed to raise \$1,000 to commence with. An appeal was issued to the people, setting forth the advantages and importance of a public library. Nothing much, however, was effected until the spring of 1878, when a public reading-room was opened, and a small nucleus of a library established. The reading-room had a reasonable share of patronage for the first year, but very little was done toward enlarging the book collection. The expenses of this year were \$500, leaving cash on hand \$150. Efforts were now renewed for increasing the number of volumes in the library, with some degree of success.

There are now (September, 1882) nearly 500 volumes in the library, and the library-room is also kept open as a reading-room, from 10 A. M. to 12 M., from 1:30 to 5 P. M., and from 6 to 9:30 P. M., daily, except Sundays. The room is kept open for reading on Sundays, 2:30 to 5:30 P. M.

The Librarian is Miss Nellie Kelly. Of the association the Directors are: A. B. F. Hildreth, W. D. Balch, S. F. Farnham, Burritt Harwood, B. W. Stevens, J. W. Smith, Henry F. Miles, V. G. Barney, F. A. Roziene and Alexander R. Spriggs. The officers are: A. R. Spriggs, President; W. D. Balch, First Vice-President and Treasurer; H. F. Miles, Second Vice-President; S. F. Farnham, Corresponding Secretary; B. Harwood, Recording Secretary. Executive Committee: Messrs. Hildreth, Balch, Stevens and Barney.

The association publishes a neat little pamphlet, giving a list of books in the library and the rules and regulations.

*Lyceum.*—As early as Dec. 6, 1856, a lyceum, or debating club, was organized in Charles City, by the election of A. B. F. Hildreth, President; Sanford Harwood, Vice-President; T. D. Pooler, Sec-

retary; and G. G. Reiniger, Treasurer. Constitution and by-laws were adopted and critics appointed. Meetings to be held weekly, at the school-house when that place should not be otherwise engaged.

In the beginning of the winter of 1859-'60, a similar society was organized and flourished during that and the succeeding winters. Lectures by parties from abroad were secured by this club. The lyceum was revived again Dec. 20, 1864. In 1866 an amateur dramatic club was organized, which continued until January 1, following, when it suspended, as the churches essentially took away their line of work. A lyceum was organized Nov. 26, 1871, which flourished during the ensuing winter.

*Antkennum Society.*—In April, 1881, a young men's debating club was organized in Charles City under this name, with J. S. Bradley for President; E. I. Angell, Vice-President; H. L. Spaulding, Secretary; B. F. Holcomb, Treasurer; Walter Stuart, Censor; S. B. Allison and E. E. Smith, Editors; E. I. Angell, A. McG. Huffman and J. A. Ferguson, Programme Committee. The society sat with closed doors, in the council rooms, Tuesday evenings. Honorary members were elected from time to time.

*Gymnasium.*—Under this name a society was organized some years ago for physical exercise; but it soon gave its funds in aid of a lecture association and died out.

*Driving Park Association.*—At a meeting of the signers to the call for an association of this kind at Charles City, held in the Union House parlors, June 21, 1882, A. R. Spriggs was elected Chairman and George R. May, Secretary, on temporary organization. The "Charles City Driving Park Association" was then organized by the election of the following officers for the ensuing year: J. S. Root, President; Morris Despres, Vice-President; S. F. Farnham, Treasurer, and R. D. Owens, Secretary. This meeting decided to have a trotting and running July 14 and 15, or the week following, and to give \$1,500 in purses.

During the ensuing month (July) an exhibition was held at the Charles City fair-grounds, which was attended with much interest.

*The Sportsman's Club* of Charles City has had a rather precarious and desultory existence. The game has included everything from a painted glass ball to a wild buffalo; the sports have included all ranks; and the toggery varied from the coon-skin cap, fawn-skin jacket and buckskin breeches, with a flint-lock rifle, to the high-



toned uniformed team of pigeon shooters with the latest breach-loading Spencer's.

The organizations have varied as wide as the surroundings, and to do justice to them would require from the historian a wide field of investigation. As everything pertaining to Charles City must start with Uncle Joe Kelly, so must sporting begin with 1850-'52 when he chased the deer, elk, and wild turkeys, over the present site of this city, killing ten elk near where the brewery now stands. William Flint and Dave Green killed two buffaloes just west of Flint during the same years. In the winter of 1856 there was a deep snow which crusted over and the people went out with clubs and dogs and slaughtered all the deer; Uncle Joe would not go. He said there was no "sport" in it. The dignity of a true hunter would not allow of such advantage of the game. In December, 1871, the first organization was effected, but the club did no acts entitling it to a name in history till its reorganization in 1878, with the following officers and members: L. Lender, Captain; W. D. Balch, President; A. M. Harrison, Secretary; A. G. Case Treasurer; E. C. Chapin, Jacob Baier, J. E. Owens, Directors; M. G. Tower, E. J. Fisher, S. Northcote, J. P. Taylor, C. M. Ferguson, John Ferguson, Charles Kitcher, D. H. Saxton and C. L. Dyke.

*Base Ball.*—This fascinating art has been represented in Charles City, by a club which engaged in two or three contests with similar clubs elsewhere. It was strong and well managed, but died out the next year.

*The Fresh Water Marines.*—This club was organized in May, 1881, with a membership of nine. P. M. Wilbur is Admiral; Burt Harwood, Commodore; P. R. Guiwits, Captain; Fred Barney, First Mate; Arthur Dennis, First Lieutenant and Gunner; C. DeTorrence, Ensign; H. A. Baltuff, Commissary; Arthur Mooney, Cook. Fred Barney removing from the city in the spring of 1882, Jo Clemens was elected First Mate in his stead. The object of the club is health and recreation. They established a camp on the Cedar River, four miles north of Charles City, named "Camp Wildwood, Home of the Fresh Water Marines."

In former times a number of small clubs and societies have enjoyed a short existence; as, the "Independent Society," in 1870-'71; the "Bantams" and the "Shanghais," the "Bachelors" club, etc. The latter was formed in 1871-'2, by twelve or thirteen bach-

elors of Charles City, who had their annual reunions, suppers, etc., for about three years, when so many of them had slipped into the bridal noose that not a sufficient number were left even to man the board of officers.

*Knights of Horatius.*—This dramatic club was organized Dec. 9, 1876, by gentlemen exclusively, and flourished for about four years. Its officers had Latin titles, as Horatius Primus, Quæstor, Princeps, Cliens, etc. The first officers were: Myron Morrell, H. P.; C. E. Judd, N. C.; C. D. Torrence, Q. P. Other prominent members were Arthur W. Dennis, Harry A. Baltuff, F. E. Barney, Jos. Clemens, M. T. Billings, E. C. Hartshorn, W. R. Hurd, B. M. Cleveland, I. K. McAdams, B. Ferguson, etc. The club was formed for mutual improvement in literary and histrionic culture, and held their regular meetings at the office of J. Evans Owens.

*The Bas Bleu Club* was organized in 1875, with a membership of twenty. The following officers were elected: Miss Ella Patterson (now Mrs. Billingsly, of Vinton, Ia.), President; Miss Cary Barney, Ida Smith and Hattie Dyke, Dramatic Committee. The object of the society was mutual improvement and a good time. They gave a number of plays, parties, dances, and receptions, and gave over \$200 for the benefit of the poor. This club was comprised of young ladies, and in their dramatic entertainments they were assisted by the Bas Sale Club. There were few changes made in the officers. The club disbanded some three years after its organization and the money left in the treasury was expended in books. The society was a very pleasant one and afforded much amusement.

*The Bas Sale Club.*—About a year after the organization of the Bas Bleus, a society of gentlemen organized themselves into a club to be known as the Bas Sale (soiled stockings), and gave a number of dramatic, literary and musical entertainments. First officers: Dr. I. S. Abbott, President; Phil. Wilbur, Vice-President; Sam. Despres, Secretary; Alex. Despres, Treasurer; Frank Koehler, Musical Director; Emory Morse, Chaplain; Shale Ellis, Sergeant-at-arms; Niel Dyke, Business Manager. Mr. Koehler afterward left Charles City, and Geo. Kay was elected to fill his place. Among the exercises indulged in by this club were mock trials, in one of which Mr. Sam. Despres distinguished himself by imitating broken German, especially the dialect of a certain German lawyer in Chicago. The meetings of this society were held

in Dr. Abbott's dental parlors. Only three of the above mentioned gentlemen now reside in Charles City.

*The Ohio Club* was organized in the spring of 1879, and was without doubt the finest and most successful dramatic organization in Northern Iowa. It was the last dramatic club in the city. Its career was successful from the first and never failed to pack a house. The members finally became scattered, and thus ended the organization. The officers were: President, J. Evans Owens; Secretary, P. R. Guiwits; Treasurer, S. H. Starr; Stage Manager, W. D. Balch; Executive Committee, E. A. Owens, W. S. Harwood, Miss Hattie Dyke, Phil. M. Wilbur. This is but a very brief sketch of one of the most useful societies in Charles City. It was indeed an ornament to the city and a benefit to its members.

*Sax-Horn Band.*—This band was first organized by L. L. Huntley, in 1864 or 1865. After he left the city the band did but little or nothing, until a German teacher from New York came and endeavored with his native tongue to drill the class, but with poor success. The next leader was Prof. J. F. O. Smith, who "led" them on to victory for about two years. The band then comprised twelve to fifteen pieces.

May 22, 1866, concert and supper at Union Hall, by the Charles City Sax-Horn Band, proceeds to buy a wagon for their use to cost \$500. It was a brilliant success. The desired chariot was soon afterward obtained,—a magnificent vehicle. During 1867 the band had a law suit, considerable opposition and a very discouraging time, but weathered it all bravely.

About this time the society, with the aid of friends, purchased a fine band wagon, costing \$550. This wagon is still the property of the band.

Next after Prof. Smith came Joseph Kelly as leader, then Hall, Gibson, and then the "Sixth Regiment Cornet Band."

Nov. 3, 1880, the band was reorganized under the leadership of Earl J. North, with thirteen men, and still flourishes, consisting of Earl J. North, solo, B-flat cornet; A. Harvey, E-flat cornet; Bird Cairns, first alto; James Ferguson, second alto; Warren Klinetop, first tenor; George Brown, second tenor; Everett Kellogg, solo baritone; Henry P. Mapes, bass; Irving Kellogg, drum and cymbals.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Many small items of interest cannot well be classified with the regular lines of history, which have "threads" extending through

a number of years; and we are therefore obliged to throw them together under the head of "miscellaneous," arranging as well as we can with some reference to their general character.

#### TEMPERANCE.

Charles City is noted for its sober-mindedness. The citizens generally are not only "temperate," with reference to drinking spirituous liquors, but even given to total abstinence. During the summer of 1857, drinking and gambling are chronicled as being "introduced." Doubtless, however, both these things had been indulged in prior to this, but it became more bold. Three parties were arrested, one convicted, and a formal notice published in the city paper that special efforts would be made to convict others who might be guilty.

The above instance is typical and representative of the fight between law and order on the one side, and drunkenness, gambling, laziness and disorder on the other. When in 1869 Charles City became an organized "city" in law, and officers and aldermen had to be elected, the usual contest sprung up, of course, between the license parties, and sometimes one party would carry the day, sometimes the other, and sometimes "both," or neither.

In 1879 the license party carried every ward. Up to within three or four days of the election it was generally believed that "prohibition" was ahead, but then a general belief sprung up that a few were setting up a ring to control county politics, and straightway there was a general bolt. "In view of the result," said the *Intelligencer*, "the verdict cannot be otherwise than, 'Failed from an overdose of politics.'" At the present time, 1882, the common council is anti-license, and is very difficult for parties to obtain spirituous liquors to drink as a beverage. Even the druggists refuse to sell such liquors, for any purpose whatever.

#### IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

April 27, 1865, appropriate public exercises were held in Charles City, in accordance with the proclamation of the Governor that the day be observed with humiliation and prayer on account of the assassination of Lincoln. This was the day of his funeral services. Under the auspices of an organization, there were a procession, music, oration, etc. A full account is given in Chapter VIII.

## IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD.

As soon as the sad news of the death of President Garfield was confirmed, Mayor Burr issued the following proclamation, September 20:

*To the Citizens of Charles City:*—Information having been received of the death of James A. Garfield, President of the United States, by the hand of an assassin; and whereas, it is deemed fitting that some expression of the emotions excited by this most calamitous event should be evidenced in a public meeting of the people of this city, therefore it is requested that all places of business be closed from and after 3 o'clock this afternoon; that the nation's citizens repair to the Baptist church at 4:30 P. M., for such services as shall be thought proper in view of the sorrow.

“P. W. BURR, Mayor.”

Accordingly a large audience assembled at the church, where the Mayor called it to order in a few appropriate remarks. Short addresses were made by B. F. Wright, G. F. Boulton, Dr. S. P. Yeomans and Rev. C. T. Tucker, who were called upon by the Mayor to address the meeting. At the close, the Mayor appointed a committee of arrangements for holding funeral services the following Monday, the day of Garfield's interment. The programme for the day was, 1. Dirge, by North's Cornet Band; 2. Invocation, by Rev. C. T. Tucker; 3. Hymn; 4. Introductory, by Chairman, G. H. Nichols; 5. Eulogy, by B. F. Wright; 6. Hymn; 7. Short addresses, by Mayor P. W. Burr, J. Evans Owens, A. W. Cook, A. M. Harrison, Major M. Lynch, Rev. Father Gunn and Rev. E. Casselman; 8. Selected poem, by H. C. Raymond; 9. Hymn; 10. Closing prayer and benediction, by Rev. H. Kaste. 11. Dirge, by the Band. These services were held on the Public Square, where a large and attentive audience assembled.

## MEETINGS.

Oct. 10, 1871, the second day of the fire at Chicago, the citizens organized for the collection and forwarding of the necessities of life to the destitute of that fated city.

Oct. 19, annual joint meeting of the Garnaville and Mitchell Associations of Congregationalists at Charles City. April 11, 1872, first grange organized.

July 9, 1872, Methodist campmeeting in O. W. Hart's grove, eighty rods from the Milwaukee depot, Charles City. Weather

favorable and a good time enjoyed. A hundred or more converts professed religion.

Aug. 25, 1874, Union Camp-meeting, under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal church. Oct. 13-14, Fourth District Press Association met in Charles City.

May 10, 1881, Masonic Hall, meeting of the Grand Chapter of the O. E. S. of Iowa; Mrs. R. C. Mathews, Rockford, Grand Matron.

June 7, 1881, ninth annual session of the Decorah District Conference of the M. E. church.

May 10-11, 1882, Editorial Association for the Fourth Congressional District.

June 21-23, convention of School Superintendents.

This list could doubtless be extended.

#### CASUALTIES.

1857, prairie fires around Charles City, destroying much property. To stand on an eminence a few miles east of the village and see the hills around it covered with fire was a magnificent spectacle.

1855, William Grow, drowned: the first death in the county. Elsewhere noticed.

1857, July 4, John Hill seriously wounded by the bursting of a sledge hammer under a pile of anvils.

1858, April 27, John W. Wyman, a highly respected young man, twenty-three years of age, was drowned in the Cedar just below the dam of the new saw-mill. He approached too near the dam, on the lower side, in a skiff, and the falling water capsized his boat and precipitated him into the raging waters. Two or three men endeavored immediately to swim to his rescue, but failed on account of the violence of the currents.

Mr. Hillman, of Union Township, was killed at Charles City by being thrown out of a wagon, his head striking against a saw-log near Kelly's mill. He was intoxicated.

1861, Feb. 10, Sunday, at St. Charles City, a lad of half a dozen years found himself an involuntary prisoner in the Baptist church. It appears that he had fallen asleep and remained so at the close of service, and being unperceived by the sexton he was locked in. Some time during the night he awoke, and finding how matters stood he made the church hideous with his outcries. A gentleman,

living near, arrived just in time to hear the glass jingle and see the boy emerge through the broken window.

1862, June 30, Enoch Harvey was caught and drawn around a shaft in a steam saw-mill and killed.

1862, Oct. 10, A. H. Buel was killed in a well, by a bucket falling upon him.

1862, Oct. 23, great conflagration in the city, which consumed two hotels, six stores, two jewelry shops, one tailor shop and one law office. Loss about \$50,000. This constituted the greater portion of the business part of the city. The fire broke out in the roof of the Kelly Hotel about 2:30 p. m., when the wind was high, and it immediately became uncontrollable. By special efforts, the *Intelligencer* office was saved. The hotels destroyed were the Kelly Hotel and the Magnolia House ; the law office was that of G. G. & R. G. Reiniger ; the other principal losers were J. W. Lehmkuhl, Carl Merckel, D. Davidson, J. Stolle, Messrs. Smilie & Bennett, the jewelers, and Ferguson & Sampson.

1864, Sept. 8, the dwelling-house of Samuel Hackley, on the west side of the river, was destroyed by fire, with all the contents. The family, who were absent when the fire broke out, had not even a change of clothing saved. Origin of the fire unknown.

Sept. 26; Charles Allen's house was burned. No insurance. Origin of fire unknown.

1863, one case of small-pox, but very light. Rumor abroad made it that the place was badly afflicted with that disease.

1865, Nov. 2, George W. Kellogg, son of Harvey Kellogg, accidentally killed himself by the explosion of a gun, while he was attempting to kill an owl in a barn.

1866, January, the wife of Col. Abner Root was fatally burned by falling on a cooking stove at her residence.

1866, April 2, ninety feet of the Charles City bridge and one pier were taken away by the flood.

1866, July 4, Frankie Slick was killed by the explosion of a rocket.

1867, June 13, the wagon shop of Wm. Korenkie, on Clark street was burned ; loss, \$1,200 ; insurance, \$800. Origin of the fire unknown. Created great alarm, as other buildings were in peril.

1867, October, a child, seventeen months old, belonging to Friedrick Phin, of Charles City, was scalded to death, by drawing

upon itself a dish of hot sauce from the table, during a few minutes' absence of its mother.

1868, Oct. 14 (or 17), Frank Weldon (or Welding) was killed by the falling of a bent at the engine station-house of the Illinois Central Railway. His residence was at Iowa Falls, where he had a wife and child. This was the first railroad casualty in the county.

1868, Dec. 8, an alarming fire broke out in the court-house, but was soon extinguished. Damage only \$25. Cause, defective lathing.

1868. One cold morning in December, Augustus Grams found a horse frozen in the river nearly up to the gambrel joints, and had to get an ax and cut away the ice in order to release him. It is supposed that the animal crossed a strip of ice to get a drink, and found it too slippery to return to the bank,—or else he decided to take a foot bath!

1869, Nov. 17, Henry Sage was struck by a train at the railroad bridge and killed.

1870. In the fall, C. W. Atkinson, a druggist, drowned himself in the river. He had been sick for some time and confined to his room, but suddenly escaped from his attendants in a fit of delirium to commit the suicidal act.

1871, April 6, S. G. Bryant's building, a two-story frame opposite the Union House, was burned down.

1876, Jan. 13, A dog belonging to Sheriff Miner stopped a runaway team in Charles City, by catching hold of the lines.

1876, June 24 (or 25), Herman Gherken (or Gherkins), was drowned near the dam.

1879, diphtheria prevailed. Charles City, by its council, appointed a board of health, which issued a proclamation forbidding assemblages of all kinds within doors, except court and election. Some people, of course, thought this a hard and inefficient measure, and disobeyed the regulation. This board was also accused (but wrongfully) of endeavoring to impede the temperance movement, which depends to a great extent upon holding meetings.

*Milwaukee Depot Burned.*—Just after the close of morning service, Sunday, May 15, the city was startled by the cry of fire. It was soon found that the Milwaukee depot was in flames, started in the roof by sparks from the locomotive of the stock express going east. The fire was discovered by the station agent, Mr. Gilbert, who, with his assistants, made every effort to extinguish it. This was found to be impossible, and attention was turned to saving the papers, etc., in the office and the articles in the baggage-



room. All was rescued except the telegraph instruments and one trunk. The freight room was full of goods, but little was saved. Six cars of freight on the side track were consumed. The loss was in the neighborhood of \$10,000, with but little insurance.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Henry C. Aldrich, M. D. and D. D. S.*, one of the leading physicians of Charles City, was born in the city of Minneapolis, Minn. His parents were Cyrus and Clara A. (Heaton) Aldrich. She was a native of New York and he of Rhode Island, where he received his education. When a young man he emigrated to Northern Illinois, and was one of the owners of the Chicago & Galena stage line and helped build the Illinois & Lake Michigan Canal. He was a member of the Illinois Legislature and receiver of public moneys at the land office at Dixon, Ill. In 1856 he removed to Minneapolis, Minn., and engaged in the real estate business. He was elected a member of the Minnesota Legislature and a member of Congress from Minnesota, in 1861. He died in October, 1871, aged sixty-three years. His wife resides in Minneapolis. She and husband had a family of three daughters and one son, two living, viz: Villa, wife of D. H. Wright, commission merchant at Minneapolis, Minn, and Henry C., subject of this sketch. He attended the Minneapolis High School and State University until 1877, when he began the study of dentistry graduating from the Dental Department of the University of Pennsylvania. then beginning the study of medicine, graduating from the Hahnemann Medical College, of Philadelphia. He located in Charles City, Ia., May, 1881, where he has since practiced the profession of medicine, establishing a large and lucrative practice. He is the city physician. Dr. Aldrich was married to Miss Mary Whitney at Minneapolis, Sept. 24, 1879. She was the first white child born at Clear Water, Minn., and in honor of that event was presented a lot in Clear Water, Minn. She was a daughter of Samuel N. and Abbie (Hay) Whitney. Dr. Aldrich and wife attend the Congregational church in Charles City. He is a member of and Medical Examiner in the Iowa Legion of Honor, and in politics a Republican.

*Edgar F. Atherton*, one of the leading merchants of Charles City, is a native of Vermont, born in Moretown, Washington County, March 23, 1844; his parents were Joseph L. and Lucy B.

(Adams) Atherton, natives also of the Green Mountain State. He resided in Moretown until 1858, when he came with his parents to Floyd County, Ia. They still reside on their farm in Cedar Township, and have a family of four children, three sons and one daughter, viz.: Ella A., who married John O. Adams; Eddie B., residing with his parents in Cedar Township; Walter E., also residing on the old homestead; Edgar F., subject of this sketch, was the eldest son; his parents moved to Floyd, Ia., when he was fourteen years old and resided there until 1870, when he went to Orchard Station, Mitchell County, and opened a store of general merchandise, remaining until the fall of 1879, when he sold out and located in Charles City, where he established his present business. He occupies a building 66 x 21 feet two stories in height and carries a full and complete stock of imported and domestic goods, ladies' goods, dry goods, notions, and clothes, hats, caps, gloves and mittens. Mr. Atherton married Miss Amelia Wilbur, June 6, 1869, at Floyd; she was born in Otsego County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Henry and Angeline (Moore) Wilbur, natives of New York, and of Quaker descent. Mr. and Mrs. Atherton are members of the Congregational church, and have had a family of two children, viz.: Earnest W., born Aug. 17, 1870, and Winifred L., July 11, 1877. Mr. Atherton is one of the enterprising representative business men of Charles City, and an old settler of Floyd County, having been identified with the county since 1858. He is a charter member of the V. A. S. Fraternity, Charles City Lodge. In politics rather independent and inclined to vote for the best man. He is of Scotch descent.

*Edmund Austin*, retired farmer, and Vice-President of the Charles City National Bank and Charles City Water-Power Company, was born in Skaneateles, Onondaga County, N. Y., Jan. 4, 1821; his parents were Silas and Mary A. (Patchen) Austin, natives of New York. He was a farmer and they were members of the Episcopal church, and had a family of five sons and two daughters; five lived to be men and women. Edmund, subject of this sketch, was the eldest child and soon after his birth his parents removed to Cayuga County, N. Y. where he farmed until his marriage to Eliza Browning, which occurred March 4, 1852. She was born in Sommersetshire, England; was a daughter of Mathew and Nancy (Davis) Browning, also natives of England. Soon after his marriage Mr. Austin moved to Skaneateles, N. Y., where he bought land and engaged in farming until the year o

1854, when he went to Winnebago County, Ill., and in the spring of 1855 came to Charles City, Ia., and purchased a farm in St. Charles Township which he still owns, and cultivated until March, 1882, when he rented it and moved into Charles City, where he bought a residence and has since lived, leading a life of retirement from active business. Mr. Austin and wife are members of the Christian church and have had a family of three children; the eldest, John P., died in infancy, and two are living, viz.: Sarah N., born Nov. 28, 1856, resides with her parents, and Willis B., one of the proprietors of the Centennial Mills of Charles City, born Jan. 19, 1859. Mr. Austin was elected Vice-President of the Charles City National Bank upon its organization in 1876 and has been Vice-President of the Water-Power Company since Feb. 1880. He owns a farm of 365 acres in St. Charles Township and 240 acres in Union Township. He also owns property in Charles City, and stock in the Water-Power Company and in the Charles City National Bank. He is one of the few old settlers of 1855 now living and has seen Floyd County change from its old uncultivated state to its present prosperous condition. When he came to Charles City there were but three frame buildings and a few log cabins. In politics Mr. Austin is rather independent.

*V. W. Baker*, carpenter, was born in Worcester County, Mass., June 12, 1820. His parents were Vickery and Priscilla (Walker) Baker, natives of Massachusetts. His father died in 1870 in Vermont, in which State his mother still lives, at the age of eighty-seven. The subject of this sketch received a common-school education in Vermont. He was married in 1852 to Sarah P. Durkee, a native of Vermont. They removed to Illinois soon after, and lived at Rockford until 1857, when they removed to Floyd County. They had four children, two of whom are living—Alice, teaching in Indianapolis, and Estella, at home. Mrs. Baker died in 1870, and he was again married, in 1871, to Estella M. Patton, a native of New York. They have had two children—Clifford, and Gracie (deceased). Politically, Mr. Baker is a Republican. He is a member of the Baptist church.

*William D. Balch*, of the firm of Reiniger & Balch, bankers, of Charles City, is a native of New Hampshire, born in the town of Claremont, Jan. 2, 1834. His parents were William S. and Adeline G. (Capron) Balch, natives of Vermont. He was a minister of the Universalist church and is still living, a retired minister, of Elgin, Ill., now in his seventy-seventh year. She

died in 1855. They had a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters. William D., the subject of this sketch, was the eldest son. When a child, his parents removed to New York City, his father having charge of a church there. He attended school in New York City until fourteen when he entered the Clinton Liberal Institute, at Clinton, N. Y., remaining three years. He returned to New York City and engaged in banking, on Wall street, until the spring of 1865, when he came to Charles City, Ia., and started the first bank in the city, under the firm name of Mitchell, Fairfield & Balch, and in 1867, E. C. Chapin, now editor of the Davenport, Ia., *Gazette*, purchased Mr. Mitchell's interest, and the firm remained Chapin, Fairfield & Balch, until 1873, when Mr. Chapin retired from the firm, and in 1875 Judge Reiniger bought Judge Fairfield's interest and the firm has since remained Reiniger & Balch. Mr. Balch married Miss Ellen M. Melville, Jan. 19, 1858. She was born in New York City and was a daughter of Henry B. Melville, a manufacturing jeweler, of New York City. Mr. and Mrs. Balch had four children, one living, viz.: Estelle L., born in New York City, in October, 1861. Their mother died in 1864. Mr. Balch married Miss Maria A. Palmer, at Charles City, Feb. 11, 1868. She was born in Maine, and is a daughter of Dr. William M. Palmer and Anna, *nee* Shaw. He was a physician, of Charles City. Mr. and Mrs. Balch have had four children, two living, viz.: Margaret and Stevens. Mr. Balch is one of the old settlers and an enterprising representative business man of Charles City. He was elected Mayor of the city one year, has been Treasurer of Charles City and Floyd County Agricultural Society, and also Treasurer of the Independent School District, a number of years. He is Vice-President of the First National Bank, of Mason City, and active in its management. In politics he has always been a supporter of the Republican party.

*Col. V. G. Barney*, formerly a marble manufacturer in Vermont, where he owned a quarry, is a native of the Green Mountain State, born in Swanton, Franklin County, Aug. 26, 1834, a son of George and Emma D. (Goodrich) Barney. They were also natives of Vermont and members of the M. E. church; they had a family of four sons and four daughters, Col. V. G. being the second son; he attended school until nineteen when he clerked in a store a couple of years, then took charge of the marble mills at Danby, Rutland County, Vt., and remained there three years;

then took charge of the mills at Swanton until 1861 when he enlisted in the Independent Company which afterward became Company A, First Vermont Regiment; enlisted for three months, and was Orderly Sergeant of the company; at the end of the three months returned to Swanton and soon after re-enlisted in Company A, Ninth Vermont Regiment, and was elected Captain of this company; remained as Captain one year, when he was Commissioned Lieut.-Colonel of the regiment, and held that position until the close of the war, when he returned home and engaged in the marble business four years; when, owing to trouble with his lungs from exposure in army, went to Florida six months, then removed with his family to Minneapolis, Minn. He engaged in the real estate business there three years, then came to Charles City, in 1872, and has loaned money and speculated in land here since. Mr. Barney married Miss Maria L. Hadwen, April 21, 1857; she was born in Danby, Vt., and was a daughter of John and Abigail (Baker) Hadwen; they were Quakers, and natives of New York; they had a family of nine children, seven daughters and two sons. Mrs. Col. Barney is a member of the M. E. church. They have had four children, viz.: Caroline E., born Feb. 7, 1858; Fred E., Oct. 10, 1859, is Assistant Cashier in Commercial Bank of Minneapolis, Minn.; Bertha M., born July 9, 1866; Frank, Oct. 3, 1871. Mr. Barney is one of the representative business men and citizens of Charles City, and is one of the directors of the First National Bank here. He owns a farm of 200 acres in St. Charles Township, 160 acres in Sioux County, Ia., eighty acres in Chickasaw County, and 400 in Wright County. In politics he is a Republican and cast the first vote for John C. Fremont for President of the United States. He has been a supporter of that party since. He is of Welsh, English and French descent. His father put in the first American marble tile flooring in the United States; he is still living and actively engaged in business at Swanton, Vt. Col. V. G. Barney's brother, Elisha L. Barney, was Colonel of the Sixth Vermont Infantry Volunteers, and was killed in the battle of the Wilderness, in Virginia, in 1864. Mr. Barney has always taken an active interest in educational matters, and for the past six years has been a member of the School Board. He has been a member of the City Council two years. He is liberal in his views politically as well as religiously; he has always taken an active interest in any thing that promised progression to Charles City.

He secured an appropriation from City Council to lay out city park and set out the trees, and lay out walks. Mr. Campbell and Mr. Barney own the Park House.

*J. A. Becker*, Clerk of St. Charles Township and farmer, was born in Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., on Dec. 24, 1837. His parents, Jacob and Melissa R. (Knox) Becker, were natives of New York, and had a family of two children, viz.: Melissa J., who married J. S. Freeman, and the subject of this sketch. His father died two weeks before he was born, and his mother afterward married Lyman Jacobs. J. A. lived in Vernon with his mother and stepfather on a farm and attended school until twenty-one, when he attended the Oneida Conference Seminary two terms; then took a three-months' course at Eastman's Business College Poughkeepsie. He then began teaching school, and taught winters and worked summers at the carpenter's trade seven years; then came to Charles City, Ia., in March, 1870. He has been engaged in farming since. He taught school in St. Charles Township the winter of 1871-'2. He married Addie L. Griswold, Oct. 23, 1867. She was born in Augusta, Oneida County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Warren H. and Aroxxa (Hart) Griswold. Mr. and Mrs. Becker are members of the M. E. church and have had one son, viz.: Warren Earl, born Aug. 30, 1881. In the spring of 1879, Mr. Becker was appointed Township Clerk, but by subsequent election has held that office since. He has held the office of Secretary of the School Board since 1872, and that of Assessor three years. In politics he is a Republican. He is one of the enterprising, representative men of Charles City, and farmers of Floyd County, where he has been identified since 1870. He is of Mohawk Dutch and New England descent.

*De Grand Benjamin*, retired farmer, miller and manufacturer of cheese, was born in De Ruyter, Madison County, N. Y., Oct. 2, 1816, a son of Elias P. and Martha (Rich) Benjamin. She was from Connecticut, and he was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y. He was a miller and farmer. They were members of the Universalist church, and had a family of six sons and three daughters. De Grand, subject of this sketch, was the third son. He attended school—working on his father's farm—until twenty-one, when he engaged in teaching school in Madison County, continuing seven years. He was married to Miss Roxalina Sexton, Sept. 23, 1843, at Union Valley, Portland County, N. Y. She was born there and was a daughter of Daniel and Nancy (Carpenter) Sexton.

After Mr. Benjamin was married he located in Union Valley, and through his efforts a postoffice was established here and he was appointed Postmaster. He also owned and conducted a farm there. In 1849 he returned to the home of his boyhood and purchased a farm within two miles of his father, and engaged in farming and milling until his father's death. He inherited the old homestead of his father. The State changed the course of the river that propelled his mill for canal purposes, soon after, so he converted his mill into a cheese factory. In March, 1874, he came to Charles City, Ia., purchased some property and has since resided here, engaged in speculating and loaning money. Mrs. Benjamin is a member of the Congregational church. They have had three children, two living, viz.: Martha A., born March 27, 1847, and Alida H., born May 8, 1852. Mr. Benjamin is one of the enterprising, representative men of Charles City. In politics, he was first a Democrat, but at the outbreak of the war became a strong Republican and has since supported that party. He is a man liberal in his views, original in mind, and a strong believer in all men having equal rights. He is of English descent. He owns a nice home and eight lots in Charles City, and a farm of 120 acres in Scott Township, most all under cultivation and well stocked.

*Edward Berg*, one of the oldest and most prominent business men of Charles City, was born in Eutin, Oldenburg, Germany, on Aug. 6, 1844, a son of Adolph and Sophia Berg, *nee* Boessing, who had a family of seven children. They were members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Adolph Berg was a Privy Councilor of the Government of Oldenburg. Edward attended school in Germany, making a specialty of the studies of chemistry and forestry until twenty-two years of age, when he came to the United States, landed at New York, and from there went at once to St. Louis, Mo. He remained there a short time, and in December, 1867, came to Charles City, where he clerked for J. H. Stolle, until March, 1873, when he open his present store. He carries a complete stock of groceries, provisions and staple goods, also keeps a full line of crockery and chinaware. One department of his store is devoted to drugs and medicines of all kinds. This stock is valued at \$3,000. He is agent for the German Fire Insurance Company, of Freeport, Ill., and has had the agency since 1871. Politically, he is independent in his views.

*F. A. Burton*, proprietor of the Charles City livery, feed and sale stable, was born in Andover, Vt., March 7, 1854; his parents were Horace and Mary A. (Taylor) Burton. They were natives of Vermont and had a family of four sons and three daughters. Frank A., subject of this memoir, was the youngest; he attended school in Andover, Vt., until thirteen or fourteen years of age, when he emigrated with his parents to Black Earth, Dane County, Wis., where he attended school two years; then worked in the Wisconsin pineries on the Mississippi River one year; then came to Charles City, and attended the High School four years; then he purchased his present livery, feed and sale stable. Mr. Burton married Miss Emma Henderson, at Charles City, Ia. She was born in Mount Carroll, Ill., in 1856, and was a daughter of Berry and Amanda C. (Youce) Henderson. Mr. and Mrs. Burton have one daughter—Miss Jessie M., born June 24, 1879. Mr. Burton is one of the enterprising, representative business men of Charles City. He was appointed Deputy Sheriff of Floyd County for four years. He owns and runs the largest and most complete stables in the city. He keeps from eighteen to twenty fine buggy and carriage horses and a full line of buggies and carriages. Mr. Burton has taken the premium for carriage horses at the county fair, ever since he came here. He is a thorough gentleman and has the confidence and respect of all who know him. Mr. Burton started at seventeen years of age to make his way in the world, and it is by his own efforts that he has educated himself and established his present business.

*Joseph Clemens*, of the firm of Joseph Clemens & Co., manufacturers of wagons, carriages and buggies, Charles City, was a son of Jacob and Gertrude Clemens, *nee* Guble, and was born June 30, 1829, in Ediger, on the River Mosle, Prussia, Germany. He was the youngest of a family of six children, and was the recipient of a practical business education in his native country. He also learned the furniture-maker's trade there, and when twenty years of age, came with three of his brothers to the United States. They landed at New York, and from there went to Milwaukee, Wis., where Joseph worked at the cabinet-maker's trade three years, and at the wagon-maker's one year; then went to Dubuque, Ia. He opened a shop there, and remained until 1867, when he went to McGregor, Ia., continuing there his former business. In July, 1872, he came to Charles City, where he has been prominently



identified with the business interests since. In September, 1857, Mr. Clemens married Agnes Zumhof, a native of Hanover, Germany. They have five children—Joseph, Jr., who is employed in his father's shop; Michael, clerking in Mile's drug store; Mollie, Lucy and Augusta. Formerly Mr. Clemens was Republican in his political views, but of late has become rather independent, voting for principle rather than party.

*Maurice S. Cole*, one of Floyd County's early settlers, is one of the oldest wagon-makers of this county. He is a native of Vermont, and was born in Sutton, Orleans County, on Feb. 14, 1827. His parents, Andrew and Mary A. Cole, were natives of Providence, R. I., and had a family of six sons and one daughter. Maurice, subject of this sketch, was the youngest. He lived on the farm with his father until sixteen, then went to Charleston, Vt., and worked one year at his trade, that of a wagon-maker; thence to Holliston, Mass., where he spent two years, learning the boot and shoe trade; he then returned to Charleston, Vt., and worked at the wagon-maker's trade until January, 1854, when he went to Gasconade County, Mo., and teamed there on the Missonri Pacific Road until October, 1855, when he came to Charles City, Ia., and teamed from Charles City and McGregor, Ia., until May, 1856, when he opened his wagon-shop, and has been engaged in this business since, and is now the oldest wagon-maker in the county. Mr. Cole married Mary A. Ingram, at Charles City, in 1858. She was born in Vermont, and was a daughter of Henry Ingram—a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Cole have one child, a daughter—Celia. Mr. Cole is one of the early, few old settlers now living in Floyd County. When he came to Charles City there were but three frame buildings in the town, and he has seen its change from a wild, uncultivated state to the present prosperous condition. In politics Mr. Cole is rather independent, and inclined to vote for the best man.

*Charles P. Collins, Jr.*, stone mason and contractor, Charles City, is one of the old settlers of Floyd County. He was born opposite the town of Newport, at the head of Memphremagog Lake, Canada, Feb. 18, 1829. His parents were Charles P. and Mary J. W. (Rever) Collins; he was born in Chicopee, Mass., and she was a native of Canada; he was a painter and stone cutter and a member of the Baptist church, and she was a member of the Universalist church. They had one child, viz.: Charles P., Jr., subject of this sketch. When he was an infant he removed with his parents

to Lowell, Mass., where he attended school until nineteen, when he learned the stone-mason's trade; when twenty-three he went to Warner, N. H., and worked here and at Nashua until the spring of 1853 when he came West to Beloit, Wis., and worked at his trade here until the spring of 1857; then came to Iowa and located in Charles City. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Twelfth Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and was in the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson and Shiloh and was taken prisoner at Shiloh, April 6, 1862, and was taken to Corinth, Memphis, Tenn., Jackson, Miss., Mobile and Montgomery, Ala., thence to Camp Oglethorp, Macon, Ga., where he remained in the rebel prison four months, then was removed to Columbus, S. C., thence to Wilmington, N. C., thence to Raleigh, N. C., thence to the "Libby Prison." He was paroled Oct. 20, 1862. He went first to Annapolis, Md., from there to Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Mo., where he joined the fifteen men that were left of his company; he was then in the fight at Springfield, Mo., when he returned to St. Louis and was mustered out of the service on account of disability, March 17, 1863. He returned home to Charles City, until the fall of 1864, when he re-enlisted in Company C, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and went with Sherman on his march to the sea, around to Washington, thence to Louisville, Ky., and was discharged at Davenport, Ia., at the close of the war. He again returned home to Charles City, Ia., where he has since resided. Mr. Collins was promoted Orderly Sergeant of his company; at the battle of Fort Donelson he was wounded with a musket ball which passed through his right hand. Mr. Collins married Miss Elizabeth Osgood, April 11, 1841. She was born in New Hampshire. The fruits of this marriage were three sons and one daughter, viz.: Chas. H., who married Miss Eveline Clark; he is a mason and they reside at Verndale, Minn. Ellen M. is the wife of Frank Kellogg; he is engineer of the Charles City Furniture factory. William C. Collins married Miss Catherine Allen; they reside in Charles City, where he works at his trade of brick mason, and Frank E. Collins, engaged in farming at Osage, Mitchell County, Ia. Mr. Charles P. Collins married his present wife, Miss Minnie Cold, May 28, 1868. She was born in Bennington, Bennington County, Vt., and was a daughter of Lorenzo Cold. Mr. Collins is one the few old settlers of Floyd County now living; he is one of the enterprising men and citizens of Charles City, where he has been identified since its infancy. In politics he is a Republican and has always been a strong supporter of this party.

*William W. Dennis*, Deputy County Recorder of Floyd County, is a native of Ohio, and was born on a farm in Wayne County, May 16, 1838. His parents were William and Rebecca (Luther) Dennis, natives of Pennsylvania. He was a member of the Universalist church, and was by trade a carpenter and joiner, and also followed farming. She was a member of the Lutheran church. They had a family of four sons and four daughters, William, subject of this sketch, being the youngest son. He attended school winters, working on his father's farm until seventeen, when his mother died. He then worked at the carpenter's trade during the summer, attending school winters until twenty-one, and on May 19, 1861, he married Miss Angie Isora Logan at Seville, Medina County, O. She was born in Pennsylvania and was a daughter of William and Mary (Beale) Logan, natives of Pennsylvania and members of the Baptist church. After his marriage, on Nov. 14, 1861, Mr. Dennis enlisted in Company D, Third Battalion U.S. Infantry, and remained in the service three years. He was in various battles, among them the first siege of Corinth, Miss., in the month of April and in May, 1862. He fought in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, Oct. 8, 1862; Stone River battles Dec. 31, 1862, and Jan. 12, of 1863, and the battle of Hoovers Gap, Tenn., June 26, 1863. The last sixteen months of his service he was detailed as a recruiting officer at Toledo, O., and was discharged at Columbus, O., Nov. 14, 1864. He remained in Ohio some time then removed to Bourbon, Marshall County, Ind., and followed his trade until July 19, 1865, when he located in Charles City, Ia. He followed contracting and building here until 1878, when, owing to failing health, he abandoned his trade, and on April 8, 1879, he was appointed his present office as Deputy County Recorder. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis are members of the Christian church, and have one son, viz.: Arthur W., born Feb. 19, 1862. He is clerk in the Charles City Savings Bank. Mr. Dennis is one of the enterprising representative men and citizens of Charles City, where he has been identified since June, 1865. He is Secretary of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 141, and has held this office seven years. He has been a Mason since twenty-one years of age. In politics he is a Republican and cast his first vote for A. Lincoln, first term. He is of English, Irish, Scotch and German descent.

*Gustavus B. Eastman*, retired banker and First Assistant Internal Revenue Assessor for Floyd County, Ia., is a native of Ver-

mont, born in New Haven, Addison County, Nov. 20, 1820. His parents were Silas N. and Amanda (Bird) Eastman; his father was a saddle and harness maker, and both were natives of Vermont and members of the Congregational church. They had a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters. Gustavus B., subject of this sketch, was the second son. When some three years of age he removed with his parents to Hopkinton, N. Y., where he lived three years; thence to Malone, Franklin County, where he attended school one year; then to Madrid, N. Y. There he attended school and worked in the harness-shop with his father until seventeen, when the family removed to Ogdensburg, N. Y.; one year later they moved to Heuvelton, and Mr. E. taught school in Morley, Canton Township, and other schools in the vicinity. He was Deputy Clerk of St. Lawrence County until 1846, when he came to Milwaukee, Wis.; remained here until the fall, when he went to Roscoe, Ill., and taught school one winter; thence to Rockford, Ill., and worked for William Hulin, County Recorder, one year, when he began to work for Robertson & Hall, lawyers and land agents and bankers at Rockford. In the fall of 1852 he went to Dixon, Ill., and opened a bank and land office under the firm name of Robertson, Eastman & Co.; remained there until 1855, when he came to Dubuque, Ia., and engaged in buying and selling Iowa lands at Dubuque and Decorah, until the spring of 1856, when he moved to Charles City, Ia., where he has since remained; he engaged in the land and banking business until the fall of 1858, and since then has been operating in lands. In 1862 he was appointed Assistant Internal Revenue Assessor of Floyd County, and held that position until Jan. 1, 1864, when he resigned to accept the office of County Recorder of Floyd County, and held that office eight years; since then has speculated in land and city property. In 1857 Mr. Eastman, Duncan Ferguson, Samuel Riddill and Samuel Hackley built a saw-mill in the north part of Charles City, this being the second steam mill in Charles City. Mr. Eastman married Eleanor S. Dixon at Rockford, Ill., Feb. 26, 1850. She was born at Geneva, N. Y., and was a daughter of George and Eleanor (Stevenson) Dixon. She is a member of the Congregational church. They had a family of three children, none of whom are living. Mr. Eastman is one of the old settlers, and one of the enterprising representative men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1856. He has always taken an active interest in anything that promised progression to this city.

Though not a member of any church, has always been a liberal supporter, not only of one but all churches. In politics he was first a Whig, and since the organization of the Republican party has been one of its strongest supporters.

*Rev. George Elliott*, pastor of the M. E. church of Charles City, is a native of Ohio, born in Tucking County, near Pataskala, Lima Township, Dec. 14, 1851, a son of Alexander C. and Margaret (Hanawalt) Elliott. His father was a farmer in early life, and afterward a minister of the M. E. church; she was also a member of this church. They had a family of three sons and five daughters, George, subject of this memoir, being the eldest. When five years of age he removed, with his parents, to Green County, Wis., and soon after his father entered the ministry, and traveled in the Wisconsin Conference until George was fifteen, when he was transferred to the Upper Iowa Conference and located in Maquoketa. In 1868 George entered Cornell College, at Mount Vernon, Ia., a Methodist institution, graduating in 1872. He went to Sabula, Ia., and edited a newspaper for one year, the *Sabula Index*, and thence to Humboldt and edited the *Humboldt Cosmos* one year. He entered the Upper Iowa Annual Conference of the M. E. church at Charles City, in October, 1874, and was appointed pastor of a church at Parkersburg, where he remained one year, and was stationed at Lansing two years, Mitchell one year, Cresco three years, and appointed minister of the First M. E. Church of Charles City, in the fall of 1881. Mr. Elliott married Miss A. M. Corfield, at Clinton, Ia., Nov. 12, 1875. She was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and was a daughter of William and Mary (Kempton) Corfield. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott have three children—George, born Dec. 18, 1876; Phillip, Sept. 7, 1878; Mary, Nov. 1, 1880. Mrs. Elliott is also a member of the M. E. church. He is of Scotch, Irish and Dutch descent. He was one of the active workers in the late temperance contest, in favor of the amendment prohibiting the sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquor. His great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary war.

*Charles Engelhart*, business manager for his father, F. Engelhart, grocer, Charles City, was born near Gotha, Prussia, Germany, Nov. 7, 1846. His parents, Frederick and Mary (Otto) Engelhart, were natives of Prussia, and members of the Lutheran church. They had a family of four children, three sons and one daughter; Charles, subject of this sketch was the eldest. He came with his parents to America when seven years of age, landed in New York

City, after being eleven weeks at sea in a sailing vessel; the family settled on a farm twenty-four miles southwest of Chicago. Charles remained on the farm until twenty-two, when he married Johanna Grosskopf in New Bremen, Ill. They lived with his father one year, and he then ran a store of his own in New Bremen, one year, when he bought a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1872, when he came to Charles City, Ia. He farmed in St. Charles Township three years, since which time he has been engaged in the grocery business in Charles City with his father. He and wife are members of the German M. E. church, and have had two sons and one daughter, viz.: Louisa, Frederick and Ernest. Mr. Engelhart is one of the enterprising representative business men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1874. In politics he is a Republican. He enlisted in Company G, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, in the late Rebellion, and remained in the service until the close of the war. He was wounded twice: first at the siege of Vicksburg in front of the skirmish line in June, 1864, being shot in the hand and losing the fore finger of the right hand; and was wounded in the left thigh at Fort Craig in front of Petersburg, April 2, 1865, and he remained at Fort Monroe, Va., six months; was in all the battles of 1864 and 1865. At the close of the war he returned home to Illinois. His parents are living in New Bremen, Cook County, Ill.

*E. C. Egloff*, agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, is a native of Germany, born near Frankfort, on the Main River, June 17, 1851. His parents were William J. and Mary (Brandel) Egloff. The former was born in the eastern part of France, in the province of Alsace, April 9, 1804. At the age of five, he commenced study in a French school, where he continued until the age of thirteen. He then attended the University of Passau, in Bavaria, where he remained eight years, graduating as a classic student. He next took up the study of law, which he followed for three years, graduating with honors, afterward practicing his profession with success. He was appointed District Judge in 1850, which position he held until 1855, when he resigned to come to America. He came to Iowa, and settled in Delaware County, and farmed until 1859. He then opened a hotel and restaurant at Manchester, and in 1861 removed to Cedar Falls, Ia., and continued in the same business there for five years. In 1865 removed to Waterloo, Ia., and in the spring of 1868 came to Charles City and retired from active business. He removed to Mason City in 1871, and died

there, April 22, 1881. His wife is still living at Mason City. She and husband had a family of ten children, eight living. E. C., subject of this sketch, is the second son; he was but three years of age when he came with his parents to America, and eighteen years of age when he came to Charles City; he attended school here and assisted his brother, M. G. Egloff, who was the first station agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, at Charles City. E. C. remained here, studying telegraphy and station work until 1876, when he was given charge of Aplington Station; remained here some two years and three months, when his brother, M. G. Egloff, was appointed train dispatcher at Fort Dodge, Ia., and E. C. was appointed his brother's former position as station agent here at Charles City, which office he still retains. Mr. E. C. Egloff married Miss Rusha Cilley, at Mason City, Ia., Nov. 8, 1880. She was born in Illinois, and was a daughter of Nathaniel P. and Louisa (Miller) Cilley. Mrs. E. C. Egloff is a member of the First Methodist Church, of Charles City. Mr. Egloff is a member of the V. A. S. fraternity, Charles City Lodge. In politics he is a Republican, and is one of the enterprising, representative citizens and business men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1868.

*S. F. Farnham*, Cashier of the Charles City National Bank, was born in Palmyra, Somerset County, Me., May 23, 1846, a son of Samuel and Eliza C. Farnham, *nee* Robinson, natives of Massachusetts, S. F. being the eldest of a family of four sons and three daughters born of this union. He received his primary education in Palmyra, and at the age of sixteen he entered the preparatory school at Bucksport, Me., which he attended two years, and was then matriculated in the Maine Wesleyan College at Kent's Hill, graduating from that institution June 7, 1870. He received the appointment of principal of the Old Town High School, which he accepted and retained five years, and in 1875 he came to Charles City. He was principal of the High School here one year, and upon the organization of the Charles City National Bank, he was elected its cashier, a position he has since held. On Aug. 27, 1871, he was married to Miss Phebe F. Johnson, of Dixmont, Me. She was a daughter of H. C. Johnson and Susan B., *nee* Edgerly. Two children were born of this union—Le Roy S., born June 6, 1872, died May 30, 1874; and Ralph H., born Dec. 5, 1881. Mrs. Farnham died Dec. 21, 1881. She was a member of Eastern Star Chapter, Masonic fraternity of Iowa, of which she

was Grand Associate Matron. Mr. Farnham is a member of Lodge No. 172, A. F. & A. M., and Easter Chapter, A. O. U. W., Charles City Lodge. He was elected City Treasurer in April, 1878, and held the office one year, and was also elected Treasurer of the Water-Power Company, of this city, in 1878. He still retains the office, and is also one of the proprietors and directors of that company. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party, and is one of the prominent business men of Charles City.

*John Ferguson*, of the firm of Woolley, Snyder, Ferguson & Bailey, proprietors of the Charles City Plow Company, is a native of Scotland, born in the city of Glasgow Jan. 18, 1834, a son of Duncan and Agnes M. Ferguson, *nee* Hope. His father was born in Crieff, Scotland, and reared and educated in Glasgow. His mother was born in the north of Ireland. They had a family of seven children of whom John was the second son. The family emigrated to America in 1837, and located in Erie, Pa., thence two years afterward to Rockford, Ill. John attended school, engaged in clerking and learned the carpenter and joiner's trade there, and in September, 1855, he came to Charles City, where he embarked in the mercantile business. In 1857 he disposed of his stock to Wright & McKnabb and followed farming until 1874, when he again engaged in the mercantile trade, which he prosecuted until Jan. 1, 1882, when he sold out to his partner, S. H. Starr, and purchased an interest in the Charles City Plow Company, a prominent manufacturing interest. He was married in Charles City, to Mary E. Strawn, of Rockford, Ill., on March 10, 1856. They have had three children, Ida E., born Aug. 7, 1858, died while yet in the full bloom of youth on July 15, 1874; J. A., born Aug. 30, 1861, is agent for the New York Life Insurance Company of this city, and Marie M., born Aug. 20, 1867. The subject of this memoir is a member of St. Charles Lodge, No. 141, A. F. & A. M., and a member of the Chapter. He has served acceptably in many of the city offices and was a member of the City Council four years. Politically he favors the Republican party. He is one of the pioneer and enterprising citizens of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1855.

*E. J. Fisher*, of the firm of Stevens, Hering & Co., wholesale and retail dealers in and manufacturers of furniture, Charles City, is a native of New Hampshire, born in Franklin, Merrimack County, Oct. 9, 1837. His parents, Ellis Fisher, who was a farmer, and



Hannah, *nee* Noice, were natives of the Green Mountain State, and had a family of nine children, of whom the subject of this memoir was the youngest son. He was educated in his native State, and at the age of fifteen went to Lowell, Mass., to learn the machinist's trade. He followed that occupation four years, then went to Manchester, N. H., and remained there three years, learning the furniture trade. From there he went to Boston, Mass., and worked at the cabinet-maker's trade, until his marriage to Abbie Haywood in December, 1861. She was born in Alexander, N. H., a daughter of Walter Haywood. Of five children born of this union three are living—Harry W., born Nov. 21, 1863, is working with his father in the factory; Frank, born Jan. 6, 1869, and Fred, born Aug. 6, 1873. After his marriage Mr. Fisher removed to Two Rivers, Wis., thence to Appleton, that State, where he worked in a furniture factory one year, then established a factory of his own at Leeman, Wis., four years later he took charge of the furniture manufacturing department, at the House of Correction at Milwaukee, Wis. In 1869 he became a resident of Charles City and a partner, in his present business. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity, National Lodge, No. 165. Politically he favors the Democratic party.

*William N. Fisher*, Constable, sexton of cemetery, and farmer, was born in Washington County, Vt., June 13, 1829, a son of Silas W. and Emily (Peck) Fisher; father a native of New Hampshire, and mother of Vermont. Of a family of three children the subject of this sketch was the eldest, and is the only one living. He was brought up on a farm, and when within two months of age he left home and worked out two or three years, and in 1854 came West, to Rockford, Ill. In the spring of 1857 he went to Minnesota with three yoke of cattle to break prairie; but hard times came on and he lost nearly all. He then located in Charles City and started a meat market, which business he prosecuted extensively. Some seasons he would kill as many as fifty or sixty hogs at a time, which were hauled to market at McGregor. But in the following spring he abandoned the market, and did odd jobs until 1860, when he started for Pike's Peak; at Denver, however, he learned such facts as discouraged him from going further, and he returned, footing all the way from Omaha to Charles City. In the autumn of 1864 he was drafted and attached to Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry; in the army, during the winter, he contracted rheumatism, and was sent to the hospital, where he

remained until July. After the close of the war he returned home to Charles City. Except what time he was in the war, he has been Constable ever since 1858. The first time he was elected he had failed of a nomination in caucus by a vote or two, and he ran independently, and yet was elected almost unanimously. In 1862 he was appointed Constable, the elected man not qualifying. He ran independently again in 1868, and was again elected. Mr. Fisher has done much for the interests of his community. In the way of fence-building he has done more than any other man in the county, and probably excels all in the neatness of his work. He has, by his business talent, accumulated considerable property and money, and is now independent and happy. Oct. 3, 1867, in Rockford, this county, he married Miss Mary Rudd, of Rockford, Ill., daughter of Joe M. and Miranda (Palmer) Rudd, her parents having been early settlers of Buffalo, N. Y. She is a member of the Christian church. Of their two children, Victoria E. is living, and Chester S. is deceased.

*Luther P. Fitch*, one of the prominent physicians of Floyd County, was born in Groton, Middlesex County, Mass., March 26, 1836, a son of John and Lucy L. Fitch, *nee* Sawtell, natives also of Massachusetts. They had a family of five children, three living—Luther P., W. H., a practicing physician of Rockford, Ill., and A. Lizzie, at present traveling in Europe. When the subject of this memoir was about three years of age, his parents removed to Winnebago County, Ill., and settled on a farm. There his boyhood was passed and primary education received. He attended school at Rockford, Ill., two years; at Groton, Mass., eighteen months, and at Beloit, Wis., five years; four years was spent in the Beloit College, from which he graduated in 1860. He spent nine months in the medical department of Michigan State University, then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at New York City, graduating with honors in 1863. Upon leaving school he was appointed Surgeon of the Forty-seventh U. S. C. Infantry, and remained with this regiment until January, 1866, when they were mustered out of service. He then formed a partnership with Dr. C. J. Taggart, at Beloit, Wis., which continued six months when Dr. Fitch went to New York City for the purpose of attending lectures and receiving instruction in special branches of medicine. Eight months later he located in practice in Rockford, Ill., remaining there until October, 1868, when he came to Charles City. He has met with deserved success as a practitioner, and is well and

favorably known throughout the county as a skillful and reliable physician. On Oct. 13, 1869, he married Martha Baker, of Berlin, Wis. Two children have blessed their union, viz.: Charles L., born March 29, 1873, and Lucy, Jan. 20, 1875. Dr. Fitch is a member of the American Medical Association, of the Iowa State Medical Society, and is Secretary of the Upper Cedar Valley Medical Association. He was elected Director of the Independent District of Charles City School Board, in March, 1878, and still retain the office. Politically he favors the Republican party.

*William Giermann*, proprietor of the German meat market, Charles City, was born in Preuzlau, Prussia, Germany, July 19, 1845. His parents were Christian and Caroline (Haman) Giermann. They had a family of five sons and four daughters. William, subject of this memoir, was the youngest, and the only one in America. He attended school in Germany until fifteen, when he learned the butcher's trade four years; then served three years as soldier in the cavalry of the German army, and in 1870 came to America. He brought his girl with him, and they landed in New York and were married at New Bremen, Cook County, Ill., June 7, 1870. She was born in Germany, and was a daughter of Gottlieb and Caroline (Schultz) Frabel. Mrs. Giermann's maiden name was Emelia Frabel. In December, 1870, Mr. Giermann located in Charles City, and worked by the day at different work till 1864, when he began to work at the butcher's trade, and in March, 1878, established his present market. Mr. and Mrs. Giermann are members of the German M. E. church, and have five children, viz.: Miss Ida, born July 24, 1882; John, born May 25, 1874; Miss Emma, born April 14, 1876; Miss Emelia, Feb. 13, 1879, and Lydia, born Oct. 14, 1881. Mr. Giermann is a member of the A. O. U. W., Charles City Lodge, No. 158. In politics, a Republican. He is one of the enterprising business men of Charles City, where he has been identified since December, 1870. He built his present market-house in 1877, and it is the leading market in the city, and Mr. Giermann tries to please all his customers, and to that end buys the best the market affords. He also carries a fine stock of dried and smoked meats.

*Geo. Gilbert*, station agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, is a native of New York, and was born in Castile, Wyoming County, July 23, 1842; his parents were Seymour and Permelia (Mabie) Gilbert, natives of New York, and members of

the Baptist church. He in early life was a hardware merchant and in after years engaged in farming. He moved from Wyoming County, N. Y., to Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill., in 1846, where he died. He and wife had two sons and one daughter. Geo. E., subject of this sketch, was the second son; he lived in Winnebago County, Ill., on his father's farm, attending school until twelve when he began to run on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, as newsboy. Subsequently rose to the position of brakeman, then baggageman. In February, 1874, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry Volunteers and remained in the service until the close of the war, when he returned to Rockford, Ill., and opened a grocery store. Eighteen months later he sold out and engaged in railroading on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway until September, 1869, when he came to Charles City, and began to work as freight agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, and was warehouseman operator and clerked for E. J. Gilbert, three years, when he was appointed agent at Garner, Hancock County, and remained two years; then took charge of the station at Algona one year, and was appointed agent at Charles City, where he has since remained. Mr. Gilbert married Miss Ada J. Halsted, at Rockford, Ill., Oct. 22, 1866; she was born in New York, and was a daughter of Egbert and Ester (Kingsley) Halsted. Mrs. Gilbert is a member of the Congregational church. They have had three children, viz.: George H., Archer and Mabel I. Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert is one of the enterprising representative men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1869. In politics he is a Republican.

*Samuel G. Goddard*, contractor and builder, and agent for the Domestic and Victor sewing machines, is a native of Michigan, and was born in Calhoun County, Oct. 26, 1829, he being the first white child born in this county. His father, Josiah Goddard, was born in Massachusetts, and when twenty-one years of age enlisted as Sergeant Major in the war of 1812, and participated in the battle of Plattsburg. After the close of the war he went to Detroit, Mich., where he married Miss Hannah Luckett; soon after his marriage he removed to Calhoun County, Mich., and was one of the first settlers of this county. He and his wife had a family of sixteen children, eleven sons and five daughters. Samuel C., subject of this sketch was the third son, he worked on his father's farm, attending school winters until fifteen, when he removed to Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill., and one year later to Green

County, Wis. They remained there and engaged in farming until October, 1848, when they came to Fort Atkinson, Winneshiek County, Ia. In 1851 Samuel C. started out with fifty cents in his pocket to make his fortune, and located in Bradford, Chickasaw County, Ia. He worked at the carpenter's trade and clerked in a store about a year, when he was elected County Clerk, he being the first to hold that office in the county. In March, 1854, Mr. Goddard came to Charles City, Floyd County, Ia., and bought the general merchandise stock of Robert L. Freeman, the first store keeper in Charles City. Mr. Goddard built the first frame house in Charles City, the town was then called Freeman, and Mr. Freeman was the first Postmaster and Mr. Goddard the second. Mr. Goddard sold his store to John and William Ferguson in the spring of 1856, then built the Magnolia Hotel, which he conducted two years, when it burned down in the fire of Charles City; he then clerked in Lehmkuhl's store ten years, since then he has worked at his trade, as carpenter and contractor, and engaged in the sale of sewing machines. Mr. Goddard married Miss Amanda Bigelow, at Waverly, Bremer County, Ia., July 16, 1857. She was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Julius and Philena (Dayton) Bigelow, natives of Connecticut; he was a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Goddard had five children, viz.: Cora, born April 26, 1858, wife of Harry A. Merrill (he is Cashier in the Rockford Bank, at Rockford, Ia.); Angie, born July 29, 1851; May, Sept. 21, 1863; Gladys, Feb. 22, 1865, and Guy A., March 8, 1867, who reside with their parents. Mr. Goddard is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge. In politics he is a Republican. He is one of the oldest settlers, and is an enterprising representative citizen of Charles City, where he has been identified since March, 1854.

*E. J. Guilbert*, ex-County Treasurer of Floyd County, was born in Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill., June 18, 1848, a son of Milo and Margaret (Palmer) Guilbert; he a native of Vermont, and she of Ohio. They had a family of six sons and four daughters. E. J., subject of this sketch, being the eldest, was but six years of age when he came with his parents to Charles City, Ia., where his father, with Dr. N. H. Palmer, purchased of Joseph Kelly half the town. He built the first frame house here. E. J. attended school and worked on a farm until eighteen, when he was employed as bookkeeper, at Prairie du Chien, Wis., for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway; worked there two years,

when he was appointed the first station agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, at Charles City, and retained the position four years. He was then elected Deputy County Treasurer for two years, and was subsequently elected County Treasurer, and held that office four years, when he purchased a farm of 160 acres, in St. Charles Township, where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Guilbert married Miss Estella Merrill, at Charles City, May 4, 1870. She was born in Harmony, Me., and was a daughter of J. N. Merrill, an attorney at Rockford, Ia., and Sarah E. (Parsons) Merrill. Mr. and Mrs. Guilbert have three children, viz.: Roy M., born July 27, 1871; Lulie, Aug. 6, 1873; and Margaret, Dec. 8, 1876. Mr. Guilbert is a member of the Iowa Legion of Honor, and is one of the charter members of Hope Lodge, No. 76, and was president for one year. He was elected City Clerk of Charles City, for one year, and has held various local offices of trust. In politics, a Republican, and cast his first vote for Grant for President the second term. Mr. Guilbert is one of the pioneer children of Floyd County, and one of the enterprising, representative men of Floyd County, where he has been identified since fall, 1853. He is of Scotch and Irish descent.

*William Hansberg*, of the firm of Hansberg & Holbrook, is the oldest merchant in Floyd County, having been identified with the mercantile interests here since 1856. A native of Eckernförde, Schleswig, Germany. He was born July 2, 1833, son of John and Anna (Gerber) Hansberg, who were the parents of three children, of whom William was the eldest. His father died when he was four years of age, and he attended school in Germany until fifteen, then served a five years' apprenticeship at a trade in the town of Bredstadt, Germany. In July, 1855, he came alone to the United States; landed at New York after a forty-five days' journey at sea. From New York he went to Lyons, Clinton County, Ia., where he clerked in a store and warehouse for the old firm of Burrows, Prettyman & Pearsall, and at Commanche until 1855, when Mr. Pearsall died and he went to Waverly, Bremer County, Ia., and clerked in a store for Hazlett & Co. until April, 1856, when he came to Charles City with Rumpf, Lehmkuhl & Co., who built a dry goods store here, which they opened in June, 1856, employing Mr. Hansberg as clerk. In 1859 Mr. Rumpf withdrew from the firm, and in 1862 Mr. Hansberg was taken into partnership. They established a branch store at Floyd, of which

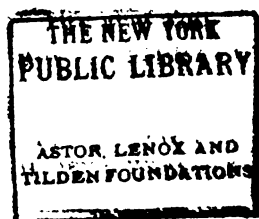
he was manager. In 1868 they closed the store at Floyd, and the business was conducted at Charles City, under the firm name of Lehmkuhl & Hansberg until the spring of 1876, when Mr. Hansberg purchased his partner's interest, and conducted the business until March 1, 1879, and then formed his present partnership with Mr. W. E. Holbrook. They are the recipients of a firmly established trade, and are known throughout the county as men of irreproachable business integrity. Mr. Hansberg was married Aug. 30, 1863, to Theresa Merckel, who was born in Andernach, on the River Rhine, Germany, a daughter of Carl and Anna M. Merckel, *nee* Just. Four children blessed this union, viz.: Mary, born May 31, 1864; Charles in November, 1866; Emil, born Aug. 18, 1868, died Sept. 21, 1869; Ernst, born Aug. 27, 1878. Mr. Hansberg was elected County Supervisor in the fall of 1880, and still holds the office. He was the first Alderman and Treasurer elected in Charles City, and has held numerous other township offices. Politically he is independent, and he and wife are members of the Lutheran church.

*A. M. Harrison*, a prominent lawyer of Charles City, and a member of the firm of Starr & Harrison, has been actively connected with the legal profession of Charles City since May, 1870. A son of Charles Harrison of New Jersey, and Catherine, *nee* DeWitt, of Ulster County, N. Y.; he was born on his father's farm in what is now the city of Pit Hole, Pa., on Nov. 5, 1847. His parents were members of the Old School Presbyterian church, in which his father was a Deacon many years. He attended school and assisted on the farm until 1862, when he, with his father and brother, began operating in oil. He worked with them and attended the academy at Pleasantville, Pa., until 1865, when he removed, with his father, to Fredonia, N. Y. He entered the academy at that place, and graduated there in 1868. In the fall of that year he was matriculated in the law school at Ann Arbor, Mich., graduating in 1870, and was admitted to the Michigan Supreme Court bar in April of that year. He came at once to Charles City, where he established an office, and soon after was employed in the law office of Starr & Patterson, and in 1873 was taken into partnership. They continued to practice under the firm name of Starr, Patterson & Harrison until the death of Mr. Patterson, which occurred Oct. 29, 1878. Since then the firm has remained Starr & Harrison. On Aug. 13, 1873, at Silver Creek, N. Y., occurred the marriage



E. D. Monrose





of A. M. Harrison and Lizzie Chapin, daughter of Charles and Calista A. (Gage) Chapin. She was born in that city on Feb. 4, 1852. Two sons have blessed this union, viz.: Gage M., born March 21, 1875, and Merton E., Oct. 18, 1876. Mr. Harrison is a member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 141. He was, too, elected City Attorney of Charles City three terms, and served as Justice of the Peace from 1871 to 1881.

*Sanford Harwood*, dealer in boots and shoes, and manufacturer of harness, Charles City, is a native of New York, and was born at Hadley, Saratoga County, July 31, 1818. His parents were Jesse and Sarah (Scofield) Harwood. He was a native of Vermont, and farmer; she was a native of Massachusetts, and they had a family of four sons and four daughters. Sanford was the second son. When he was six years of age his father died. He then remained on the farm with his mother until seventeen, when he went to Chautauqua County, N. Y., and worked at the harness trade in Maysville two years; then went to Essex County and worked at Crown Point two years, then came to La Salle County, Ill., and located in the town of Lowell and farmed until spring of 1852, when he came to Independence, Buchanan County, Ia, where he purchased a farm, and farmed eighteen months; then, in fall of 1854, came to Charles City and engaged in farming until 1863, when he established his present business. Mr. Harwood married Miss Keziah Dryer, Aug. 31, 1843, at Lowell, La Salle County, Ill. She was born in Seneca County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Chester Dryer and Susan (Hobro) Dryer. Mr. and Mrs. Harwood are members of Baptist church, and have had a family of eight children, four sons and one daughter living, viz.: James C., printer and editor of *Wright County Monitor*, at Clarion, Wright County, Ia.; Miss Susie M. Harwood; Burt E., photographer of Charles City; William S., of editorial staff of *Dubuque Herald*; and Frank E., engaged in business with his father. Mr. Harwood has been a member of the City Council, member School Board, and Township Trustee a number of years, and member of County Supervisors in 1860—held this office two years. In politics, he is a Republican, and has always been a supporter of that party. He is one of the old settlers and enterprising representative men of Charles City, where he has been identified since fall of 1854.

*Harwood & Mooney*, photographers, Charles City, Ia., is one of the city's enterprising young firms. Though both are young men, they do some of the finest work in their line in the State.

The senior member of the firm, Burritt Harwood, is a native of Charles City, and was born Nov. 26, 1855. He received his early education here, attending the Charles City High School, and afterward the Academy of Design, Chicago.

John Arthur Mooney, was born in Rockford, Ill., Oct. 10, 1857, and came with his parents to Charles City in 1873. He learned the art of photography with J. E. Rich, with whom he remained seven years. He then went to Independence, Ia., and engaged in the photographic business a short time, but subsequently returned to this city and formed the present partnership, under the firm name of Harwood & Mooney.

*William C. Hering*, of the firm of Stevens & Hering, furniture manufacturers, Charles City, is a native of Mecklenburgh-Schwerin, Germany, born Oct. 12, 1838, the only son of William and Sophia (Oden) Hering, likewise of German birth. They were members of the Lutheran church. William C. attended school in Germany until his fourteenth year, when he immigrated with his parents to the United States, locating in Cincinnati, O. Two years later they removed to Milwaukee, Wis., where W. C. learned and followed the chair-maker's trade until 1869, when he came to Charles City, and in company with E. J. Fisher and W. E. Elkins established a furniture factory at this place. In 1870 Mr. Parkhurst became a partner, and July, 1871, he sold his interest to Mr. Stevens, one of the present proprietors. In October, 1874, the company bought out Mr. Elkins, and the firm has since remained Stevens, Hering & Co. The subject of this memoir was married Feb. 8, 1866, to Dora Stelling of Washington, Wis. Seven children have blessed their married life, of whom six are living—Hattie M., Jennie, Carrie, Lulu, Irwin and Ida. Arthur died in infancy. Mr. Hering is a prominent member of National Lodge, No. 165, I. O. O. F., and in politics is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*S. R. Hewitt, M. D.*, has been prominently identified with the medical profession of Floyd County, since 1869, a son of Samuel B. and Elmina Hewitt, *nee* Tucker. He was born in Middlebury, Wyoming County, N. Y., July 22, 1839. S. R. was the eldest of a family of four children, and when he was six years old his parents moved to Sharon, Wis., and two years later to Fond du Lac. His

father settled upon a farm near by, and S. R. assisted on the farm and attended school during the winter months, until twenty years of age, when he entered the Baraboo, Wis., Institute. He spent one term in that institute, then taught school and studied medicine until his twenty-fourth year, when he went to Brandon, Wis., and continued the study of medicine under Dr. B. F. Dodson, three years. He then became a student in Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which he graduated in 1867. He at once located at Berlin, Wis., in the practice of his profession, and shortly afterward went to Waupun, Wis., where he practiced two years, then removed to Nora Springs, Floyd County, Ia. In June, 1881, he came to Charles City, where he has since remained. He was married at Alto, Wis., on Oct. 30, 1867, to Alice E. Talcott, who was born at Kenosha, Wis., and was a daughter of Gilbert and Mary (Larabee) Talcott, natives of New York. Their union has been blessed with one child, a daughter, Alice B., born April 25, 1871. Dr. Hewitt is a Mason and a prominent member of St. Charles Lodge, No. 141. In politics he is a Republican. During the time he was at Rush Medical College, Dr. Hewitt was the assistant of Prof. E. L. Holmes, of the Eye and Ear Infirmary of Chicago, two years. He makes a specialty of surgery, and has successfully operated on many difficult and complicated cases. He was surgeon for the B., O. R. & N. R. R. six years, and during the war was selected from the medical college as assistant surgeon of the Marine Hospital, where he remained three years and gained a thorough knowledge of this department of his profession.

*William E. Holbrook*, junior member of the firm of Hansberg & Holbrook, was born in Masonville, Canada East, Dec. 11, 1841. His parents were Abram and Azubah Holbrook, *nee* Perkins, the former a native of Vermont, the latter of Canada. They had a family of seven children; five lived to maturity. In 1852 the family moved to Freeport, Ill., where they remained until 1855, then came to Floyd County, Ia., settling on a farm of 400 acres in Floyd Township, which the eldest son had entered in 1854. William E. assisted on this farm and attended school until nineteen years old, when he taught school here two terms, then visited the home of his boyhood and Vermont with his mother and sister, where he taught school and worked on a farm until the spring of 1864, when he returned to Floyd. In June of that year he commenced clerking for Lehmkuhl & Hansberg, and came with them to Charles City in 1868. He was clerk and bookkeeper until

1879, when he was taken into partnership. On Feb. 27, 1880, he married Matilda Kellogg, who was born in Ohio, and was a daughter of John and Rachael Kellogg, *nee* Shelly, who settled in Charles City in 1854. Their union has been blessed with two children—Eugene W., born Dec. 3, 1870, and Cora G., Aug. 30, 1872. Mr. Holbrook is a member of Charles City Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; also of Almond Chapter. He has taken all the degrees of the I. O. O. F. Encampment. He was elected City Treasurer in March, 1882, and still retains the office. He has always been a strong adherent to the principles of the Republican party. His father died here on Nov. 6, 1859, and his mother is residing with her son, the subject of this memoir.

*H. S. Howard*, of the Boss Harrow Company, is one of the leading business men of Charles City, and was born at Saline, Mich., Aug. 4, 1842; he was a son of Rufus, whose ancestors were English. Rufus was born at Utica, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1817. He was a physician. He moved from New York State to Michigan, where he married Ann Cook, Nov. 27, 1839. In the fall of 1846 he moved to Cottage Grove, Wis. He died June 4, 1857, after an illness of seven days. He had an extensive practice as a physician, and was worn out by his zealous labors. His wife, Mrs. Ann Howard, died at the residence of her son, H. S. Howard, at Floyd, Ia., Thanksgiving Day, November, 1876. She and husband had a family of three sons and three daughters—H. S., W. P. and Murtie, who resides with her brother, H. S. Howard, subject of this sketch; he was the eldest. He enlisted, Aug. 29, 1861, in the Third Battery, Wisconsin Light Artillery, for three years, and was discharged in October, 1864. He served under Generals Buel, Rosecrans and Grant at the battle of Chickamauga, and was taken prisoner with ten other members of the battery, along with the guns, and taken to Richmond, thence to Libby Prison; and Nov. 28, 1863, they were moved to Danville, Va., and Nov. 29, 1863, took leg bail for Uncle Sam's land, and after a tramp of thirty days and nights through the rebel country and over the Blue Ridge and Alleghany mountains, he reached the Union lines at Camp Fayette, W. Va. After a week's rest in camp he visited his home, and returned to his command at Chattanooga, and after his discharge he went to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and attended the Eastman's Business College, from which he graduated. He then visited some friends in New Jersey, then took a position here as book-keeper in the store of J. L——. Finding confinement in the

store imperious to his health, he decided to return to his home in the West. In 1868 began to sell farm machinery, which business has been followed with very little intermission, until the manufacturing of "Boss Harrows" has compelled the cessation of all other interests. Mr. Howard moved from Janesville, Wis., to Floyd County, Ia., October, 1874, and in a few months began to sell farm machinery at Floyd, and in the spring of 1876 manufactured a few "Scotch Harrows," for retail trade, and made two harrows of an entirely new pattern, a harrow patent by John E. Perkins, formerly of Verona, Wis. Mr. Howard made about sixty of these, and called them the "Boss Harrow," because all who used them called them the "Boss." These were made in 1876. A further account of this enterprise, under the firm of the "Boss Harrow Company," has been given on a preceding page.

*John Howard*, retired farmer and grain dealer, was born in Lawrence County, Ind., May 31, 1820, a son of Elbert and Phebe (McNeal) Howard, the former a native of Georgia, the latter of Kentucky. They were members of the Methodist church, and the parents of seven children. In 1834 the family moved to Illinois and settled in Kane County. In 1840 the subject of this memoir left home to make his own way in the world. He went to Waukegan, Lake County, Ill., and was there married, Jan. 16, 1848, to Harriet M. Gould, who was born in Utica, N. Y., March 8, 1819, a daughter of Louis and Nancy Gould, *nee* Hickox. Her father was a native of Massachusetts, her mother of New York. They were Methodists in their religious views, and were members of that church over fifty years. After his marriage Mr. Howard followed his trade, that of a furniture manufacturer, in Waukegan, until April, 1854, when he came to Charles City and opened the first cabinet-maker's shop in the county. The machinery in his shop was run by horse-power, and he made the first chair and brought the first lathe into the county. He continued in this business five years, then purchased a farm in St. Charles Township, which he cultivated until July, 1864, when he sold it and returned to Charles City. He engaged in grain and other business here until 1872, and since then has lived a retired life, having accumulated an ample competency for the support of his declining years. Mr. Howard and wife, Newman Dutcher and wife, and Mrs. John Kellogg organized the first church in Charles City, and their first meeting was held in an unfinished log barn, the sermon being preached by Rev. John Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Howard have been

faithful and active workers in the church since that time, and he has served as Trustee and Steward many years. They have had two sons, both now deceased, viz.: Louis Gould, born April 20, 1849, died Aug. 20, 1851, and John Gould, born Sept. 19, 1852, died May 14, 1853. Mr Howard can truly be classed with the pioneers and representative men of Floyd County, and his works for the good of the city will live after him, "By their works ye shall know them."

*Charles Kelly*, for whom the town of Charles City was named, is a son of Joseph Kelly, a native of Ohio, and Malinda, *nee* Rader, of Virginia. Joseph Kelly came to Floyd County in 1856, and laid out the town of Charles City, naming it for his son, and built the first saw-mill in the county. They had a family of ten children, six living—Charles; Melvina, wife of Christopher Martin, of Monroe, Wis.; Jane, wife of F. O. McCallister, a resident of Charles City; Harriet, widow of Chas. H. Haskell, is residing with her mother and conducts a milliner shop in Charles City; Mary, wife of D. W. Carver, editor of the *Dubuque Herald*, and Joseph, Jr., a musician and band leader in Buena Vista, Cal. The subject of this memoir was born in Monroe, Green County, Wis., Feb. 28, 1838, and was there reared and educated. In 1855, at the age of seventeen, he came to Charles City to join his father, and helped haul the machinery for his father's mill from Galena, Ill. He worked in the mill until his marriage to Ida Wisley, which occurred Oct. 19, 1870. She was born in Rutland, Vt. In 1874 Mr. Kelly went to Oakland, Cal., where he was employed in the marble works until December, 1881, when he returned to Charles City, where he has since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Kelly have one child, a son, William F., born Nov. 19, 1873. Mrs. Kelly is a member of the Congregational church. He is politically a Democrat, and is known as one of the old settlers and representative citizens of Charles City.

*John Kuck*, dealer in leather findings, saddles, hardware, buffalo robes, horse blankets, etc., Charles City, Ia., is a native of Germany, and was born near the city of Bremen, Prussia, Dec. 5, 1836. His parents were Henry and Anna (Gerken) Kuck, also natives of Germany. They had a family of eight children, seven sons and one daughter. John, subject of this sketch, was the third son, and is the oldest now living. He attended school in Germany and farmed until sixteen, and then came alone to America; landed at Baltimore, Md., after being eight weeks at sea. He went to Wheeling, Va., and two months after to Marietta, Ohio,

where he learned the harness-maker's trade and resided until twenty, then went to Le Sueur, Minn. He was partner in a store of general merchandise there one year, then sold out and went to Galena, Ill., and worked at his trade until 1860, when he opened a harness shop at Lansing, Ia., and engaged in business here until 1864, when he came to Charles City, Ia., and established his present business. Mr. Kuck married Mary Meyer at Galena, Ill., June 1, 1860. She was born in Switzerland. They are members of the M. E. church, and have had a family of seven children, two living, viz.: Henry L., born Dec. 1, 1862; George W., born Dec. 14, 1868. Both work with their father in the harness shop. The mother died May 30, 1879. and Mr. Kuck married Lizzie Brandon April 22, 1880, at Charles City. She was born in Cook County, Ill., and was a daughter of Adam and Elizabeth (Sibbel) Brandon. They have one daughter—Bertha A. C., born Feb. 10, 1881. Mr. Kuck, in politics, is a Republican. He is one of the oldest harness-makers and business men of Floyd County and Charles City, having been identified with this city since July, 1864. He was a member of the Council of Charles City one year from Second Ward. He was one of the first members of the German M. E. church, which is now the Charles City District, embracing many counties, and was one of the first to organize the church in this city.

*William M. Langstaff*, blacksmith, Charles City, was born in Montrose, Susquehanna County, Pa., Oct. 22, 1830, a son of John and Rachel Langstaff, *nee* Bush, the former of English birth, the latter born in the Keystone State. They were the parents of nine children, William being the third son. His father died when he was eight years old, and he continued to reside on the farm with his mother until 1839, when the family moved to Brooklyn, Pa., where he learned the blacksmith's trade. In 1852 he went to Rockford, Ill., remaining there working at his trade one year, then went to Janesville, Wis., where he was married Jan. 31, 1854, to Margaret Warn, a native of Jacksonville, N. J., and a daughter of James M. and Margaret (Burlew) Warn, likewise natives of New Jersey, and the parents of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Langstaff had a family of three sons, two living—Will Leslie, born Dec. 5, 1855, at Janesville, Wis., is a merchant at Belmont, Ia., and Henry L., born in Charles City, July 31, 1860, is a printer at tanton, Pa.; Clarence, born Nov. 25, 1858, died Sept. 25, 1859. After his marriage Mr. Langstaff resided in Janesville until the spring of 1856, when he came to Charles City, where he established



a blacksmith shop, and has remained since. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity, Charles City Lodge, No. 165. Politically he is a Democrat. He is one of the oldest blacksmiths now living in the county, having opened a shop here in 1856.

*Jacob Leonard*, proprietor of the Leonard Hotel, Charles City, was born near Bedford, Lawrence County, Ind., Dec. 12, 1819, a son of Henry and Martha (Raims) Leonard, natives of North Carolina. They had a family of thirteen children, eleven of whom lived to maturity. When Jacob was about two years old his parents removed to Monroe County, Ind., and settled on a farm. He was reared and educated at that place, and was married there on Dec. 20, 1843, to Catharine Berkey, who was born in Valonia, Jackson County, Ind., a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Iseminger) Berkey. Of nine children born of this union, eight are living—William H., editor and proprietor of the *Rock County Recorder*, at Janesville, Wis.; Margaret A., wife of William Ganges; Mary E., wife of Charles Leaman; N. Kate, wife of Joseph Flannigan; E. Hattie, who is cashier in a store at Janesville, Wis.; L. Agnes, who is a printer; Ester E. and Clara A. After his marriage Mr. Leonard farmed in Monroe County, Ind., until 1843, then taught school two years, and in 1845 went to Doe Prairie, where he farmed and taught until 1847, when he went to Green County, Wis., continuing in the same occupations there. In the spring of 1856, he came to Charles City, moving his family here the following year. He farmed, teamed and engaged in draying until 1875, then opened a grocery store, which he sold a short time afterward, and bought the Cleveland House. In October, 1879, he built his present hotel, which is a two-story building, containing fifteen sleeping rooms, parlors, dining-room, office and kitchen, all fitted up in good style. Mr. Leonard shows his guests every attention and is a popular landlord. He was elected Justice of the Peace for two years, but resigned the office before the expiration of his term. Politically he is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*Milton Martin*, proprietor of the "Central Market," Charles City, is a native of New York, born in Oneida County, June 9, 1840. His parents were Ebenezer and Mercy (Doty) Martin, also natives of New York, and members of the M. E. church. They had a family of five children, two sons and three daughters. Martin, subject of this sketch, was the eldest son. When five years of age he removed, with his parents, to Winnebago County, Wis.,

where his father settled on a farm. They resided there four years, then moved into Ripon, Wis., where Martin attended school until fourteen, then worked with his father in the market until 1855, when he went to Wautoma, Washara County, Wis., and ran a hotel eighteen months. Subsequently returned to Ripon, and in the spring of 1858 went overland with a party to Pike's Peak and mined and prospected until fall, when he returned to Ripon, and removed with his father to Washara County, Wis., and farmed until the outbreaking of the late war, when he enlisted in Company F, First Wisconsin Cavalry, in spring of 1862, as a private, and was first appointed Sergeant, then First Lieutenant, and afterward Captain of the company, remaining until the close of the war, when he was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn. He returned to Ripon and embarked in the market business. He was married to Miss Mercy A. Eggleston, at Ripon, May 7, 1866. She was born in Wisconsin and was a daughter of Giles and Catherine (Bullis) Eggleston, natives of New York. After his marriage, on Oct. 31, 1866, Mr. Martin located in Charles City, and established his present market. They have been members of the First M. E. Church of Charles City for the past ten years, and have had six children, viz.: Andrew, Cora, George, Ebenezer, Earl and Ellinor. Mr. Martin is a member of the A. O. U. W. and V. A. fraternities of Charles City. In politics he is a strong Republican, and voted for the amendment in 1882, and was the first Prohibitionist elected in the City Council, and is now serving his fourth year. He is one of the old residents and enterprising representative citizens and business men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1866. He is of English and German descent. His great-grandfather was Captain on an English man-of-war ship in the Revolutionary war.

*Carl Merckel, Sr.*, of the firm of Merckel & Son, hardware, Charles City, was born in Andernach, Prussia, Germany, Oct. 19, 1812, a son of Elias and Theresa Merckel, *nee* Kerig. Carl attended school and college until thirteen years of age, when he began learning the tinner's trade with his father, continuing with him three years. He then traveled in Holland, Belgium, France and Germany, until twenty; then worked with his father at Andernach until 1838, and on June 10 of that year he was united in marriage with Anna Marie Just, a native of Andernach, and a daughter of John Just, who had charge of a forest in Germany. After his marriage Mr. Merckel worked at his trade in his native

place, until 1852, when he came to America; landed at New York City, after a fifty-two days' journey. He worked in Albany, Rochester and Buffalo, New York, until 1854, when he came West, locating in Decorah, Ia., where he established the first tin shop in that city. One year later he removed to St. Paul, Minn., thence to Dubuque, Ia., where he resided until August, 1856, when he settled in Charles City, and in 1857 he sent to Germany for his family. He was employed in the first tin shop in this county, operated by Ferguson & Stanley until 1858, when he opened a shop of his own. He was burned out in 1862, and then built his present store. Mr. and Mrs. Merckel have been blessed with nine children, three living—Theresa, wife of Wm. Hansberg, an old settler and merchant of Charles City; Carl, Jr., and Maggie. Carl, Jr., was born in Andernach, July 2, 1844, and attended school there until thirteen years of age, when he came to Charles City, and when fourteen learned the tinner's trade with his father, and in 1870 formed his present partnership with him. He married Gracie F. Davidson, at Charles City, Sept. 19, 1870. She was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and was a daughter of Donald Davidson and Marion L., *nee* Brown, who were likewise of Scottish birth, and emigrated to America in 1855, settling in Floyd County, Ia., in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Merckel, Jr., have had two children,—Carl D., born June 13, 1880, and Clyde, born Aug. 21, 1871, died Oct. 27, 1879. Mr. Merckel, Jr., was elected Mayor of Charles City in 1880, and held the office one year. He has been a member of the City Council seven years. Father and son are both strong supporters of the Republican party, and are classed with prominent and enterprising business men of Charles City.

*George Wilhelm Meyer*, the oldest and leading clothier and merchant-tailor in Charles City, has been prominently identified with the business interests of this city since 1863. A son of John and Marie (Zimmerman) Meyer. He was born Jan. 6, 1838, in the village of Sumte, Prussia, Germany. He was the eldest son of a family of five daughters and two sons, and after receiving a practical business education in his native town, went to Neuhaus where he was apprenticed to the tailor's trade; when twenty years of age, having become proficient in his trade, he went to Hamburg, and two years later emigrated to the United States, accompanied by his sister, Mrs. John Pertzborn. He located in Madison, Wis., where he obtained employment at his trade. He was married there on Apr. 7, 1862, to Marie Schneider, who was born in

Switzerland, a daughter of John J. and Maria Schneider, *nee* Speich. Mr. Meyer resided in Madison until 1867, when he removed to Boscobel, Wis., remaining there until 1868, and then came to Charles City. He at once established his present business, and has met with deserved success, being known throughout the county as a man of irreproachable business integrity. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have ten children, viz: Wilhelm G. H., working in his father's tailoring establishment; Paulina, George W., Amelia, Louisa, Wilhelmina, Mary, Matilda, Henrietta and Cora. Politically Mr. Meyer was formerly a Republican, but of late has been rather independent, voting for principle rather than party.

*Miles Brothers*, W. F. and H. F. Miles, druggists, and dealers in paints, oils, wall-paper and stationery. This is one of the oldest and leading business houses of Charles City, and was established in 1858, by Dr. J. W. Smith and C. W. Atkinson, Mr. W. F. and H. F. Miles becoming proprietors in 1868, and they have increased their business, and enlarged their store from time to time, until they now occupy a three-story building, 120 feet deep by 22 feet wide, with a basement, and they carry a full and complete stock of imported and domestic goods. W. F. and H. F. Miles were born in Franklin, Delaware County, N. Y. W. F. was born Sept. 23, 1840, and H. F., Nov. 28, 1842. They were sons of Levi and Emily (Boyd) Miles, he a native of Connecticut and she of Massachusetts. They were members of the M. E. church, and had a family of four sons and four daughters. W. F. Miles attended school, working on his father's farm until he began teaching school; taught winters and worked on the farm summers, until twenty, when he attended the Commercial College, at Binghamton, N. Y., where he graduated one year after. He then resided at Beloit, Wis., until the outbreaking of the late Rebellion, when he returned home to New York, and enlisted in Company A, Thirteenth New York Infantry and heavy Artillery; was shot through the right foot at a battle in front of Pittsburg. Pa., and laid in the hospital suffering from fever and his wound, and came near losing his life from exposure and neglect. He was found three days after being wounded, by Dr. Tennant, a surgeon, who proved to be a brother-in-law to Mr. Miles's brother, H. F. Miles. Through the effort of Dr. Tennant Mr. Miles's life and limb was saved. At the close of the war Mr. Miles returned to Deposit, N. Y., and was appointed Principal of the Deposit Military Academy for one year; he then clerked for eighteen months in a drug-

store at Deposit, then came West to Waterloo, Ia., and clerked in a dry-goods store one year, and then located in Charles City. Mr. Miles married Miss Estella Corson, at Waterloo, Ia., Sept. 8, 1870. She was born in Ohio, and was a daughter of Charles and Maria (Britton) Corson. Mr. Miles is a member of the M. E. church, and Mrs. Miles a member of the Baptist church. They have two children, viz.: Miss Carry and Charles L. Miles. Mr. Miles is a charter member of I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W. lodges. Mr. Miles, during the war, was in the battles of Weldon R. R., City Point, Spring Valley and eighteen days in the battle of the Wilderness, and at the battles and skirmishes of the regiment. He was once taken prisoner by the Mosby's guerrillas; while carrying dispatches, his horse threw him and ran down the road, and was met by a company of cavalry, who returned and recaptured him from the guerrillas, before they read his dispatches. Mr. H. F. Miles was also in the late war. He enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-fourth New York Infantry Volunteers, and remained in the service until the close of the war, and was promoted Second Lieutenant; was in the siege and capture of Fort Sumter, the Peninsula campaign and at Gettysburg, and all the battles of the regiment. Mr. H. F. Miles married Miss Mary A. Hanford, Oct. 4, 1869. She was born at Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., and was a daughter of George W. and Jane (Phillips) Hanford. Mr. Miles is a member of the Congregational church, and Mrs. Miles a member of the M. E. church. They have had two children, viz.: Fred H. and Clarence W. Fred died May 5, 1879, aged eight years. Mr. H. F. Miles is a Mason and a member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 141, and A. O. U. W. lodge, of Charles City. Messrs. W. F. and H. F. Miles are leading business men, and representative citizens of Charles City, where they have been in business since 1868.

*George P. Morris*, Treasurer of Floyd County, is a native of Wisconsin, born in Racine, March 27, 1843, a son of Roswell Morris (a native of Vermont) and Rowena, *nee* Goodwin, born in New Hampshire. Roswell Morris was a merchant, and in 1852 he removed with his family, which consisted of his wife and two sons, viz.: Julius R. and George P., to De Pere, thence to Green Bay, Wis. George P. was educated in his native city and in Green Bay, and in 1857 left home, and started out to fight life's battles for himself, going to New York City, and engaging as clerk in a wholesale hardware house at that place. In April, 1861,

he enlisted in the Eighth New York National Guards Infantry Volunteers, that being one of the first troops ordered to Washington. He enlisted for three months as a private, and was promoted to the rank of Commissary Sergeant of the regiment. He served three months, then returned to Green Bay, and in the fall of 1861 enlisted in Company H, Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers, and remained with them until January, 1862, when he was transferred to the Second Wisconsin Cavalry as a Battalion Commissary Sergeant, remaining in the service until the fall of 1862, when he received an honorable discharge, at Helena, Ark. He returned to his old home in Wisconsin, and soon after was commissioned First Lieutenant of the Duryea, New York, Zouaves, and prepared again for service, but was compelled to remain at home, on account of illness. In the winter of 1862, he went to Sparta, Wis., for his health, and, after recuperating a few months, accepted a situation as clerk in a hardware store. In 1864 he went to La Crosse, where he clerked until 1868; then came to Charles City, Ia., and established a news depot, and also dealt in fancy notions. In January, 1872, he was appointed Deputy Treasurer of Floyd County, retaining the position until May of that year, when he received the appointment of United States Express Agent, and in 1878 was appointed agent for the American Express Company. He held the positions until the fall of 1881, when he was elected to his present position, being nominated by acclamation, and receiving the almost unanimous vote of the county. Mr. Morris was married July 9, 1866, to Julia A. Ely, who was born in Cleveland, O., a daughter of Lyman and Almira Ely, *nee* Kent. They have had six children—Bessie R., born Jan. 11, 1868; Daisy M., July 21, 1873; M. Louisa, Oct. 12, 1876; Emma M., June 9, 1878; George R., July 19, 1880; and Julia A., deceased. Mr. Morris has held many of the city offices, and in each instance has shown himself to be eminently fitted to hold public positions of trust. He is a member of the Iowa Legion of Honor, of which he is Treasurer. Politically, he is a Republican.

*Julius P. North*, tinner and dealer in stoves and general hardware, was born in Angelica, Allegany County, N. Y., Jan. 31, 1834. He was a son of Geo. B. and Julia (Perrine) North. The former was a native of Vermont and he was a son of Noah North, whose father came from England and settled in Connecticut. Noah North's family consisted of five sons and two daughters, viz.:

Henry P., tinsmith of Geneseo, N. Y.; William, gunsmith at Hartford, Conn., Albert, tinsmith, who died at Geneseo, N. Y.; George B., tin and coppersmith; Charles A., tinsmith at Wyoming, N. Y., and Olive and Laura. The former died at Angelica, N. Y. Noah emigrated to Geneseo, N. Y., with his family, and his son, Geo. B., father of Julius P., subject of this sketch, early showed a fondness for the water by building small water crafts. He worked at the tinner's and coppersmith's trade until twenty-two, when he made two cruises in the war ship "Brandywine" for four years, then went to Buffalo, N. Y., where he worked at his trade and owned property. On a visit to Geneseo he met and afterward married Miss Julia Perrine; married May, 1831. She was a daughter of Jeremiah and Hannah (Wright) Perrine. Her father served in the Revolutionary war, and for his meritorious services his wife received a pension; she outlived him a number of years and finally died at Ovid, N. Y. Her daughter, Hannah Perrine, grandmother of Julius P. North, was born at Hebron, Conn., and emigrated to Geneseo, N. Y., in 1827, and died at Angelica in 1854, aged seventy-six years. She and husband had a family of two sons and three daughters, viz.: Thomas, Julius, Julia, Eveline and Emeline Perrine. Geo. B. and Julia (Perrine) North, parents of Julius P., had a family of four sons and two daughters, viz.: Alford, Julius P., Mary J., Eveline, George and George second; the last two died in infancy. Mary J. died at Geneseo, Feb. 26, 1879, aged forty-five; the rest are living. Julius P., subject of this sketch, was the second son. He attended school until thirteen, when he learned the tinner's trade with his uncle, Henry P. North, until nineteen. Julius then came to Chicago and worked at his trade two years, then came to Jacksonville, Chickasaw County, Ia., and located land and worked here and in Elkader, Clayton County, until 1866, when he came to Charles City and established his present business. Mr. North married Miss Carrie M. Updike, at Jacksonville, Ia., Jan. 26, 1858. She was born in Westfield, N. Y., and was a daughter of William and Mercy (Loveless) Updike, he of New Jersey and she of New York. Mr. and Mrs. North are members of the M. E. church and they have been members of this church for the past twenty-two years. Mr. North is Class-Leader in the First M. E. Church of Charles City. He and wife have had three sons and one daughter, viz.: Earl J., born Nov. 3, 1859; Miss Hattie M., born Sept. 2, 1862; Henry P., born Nov. 12, 1865, and George F., born Sept. 12, 1870.

Mr. North is one of the leading manufacturers and business men of Charles City. In politics, a Republican, and he has always been a strong advocate of temperance, having voted the Iowa prohibitory law in 1855, and also voted the amendment prohibiting the sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors in 1882.

*A. E. Palmer*, an old settler and farmer, residing in Charles City, is a native of Illinois, and was born in Aurora, Kane County, July 27, 1841, a son of Dr. N. H. and Miranda (Isball) Palmer, who were members of the M. E. church. He was a native of Vermont, and emigrated to New York, where he was married. In 1835 he moved to Aurora, Ill., where he practiced medicine until the spring of 1854, when he came to Bremer County, Ia., and the fall of that year located in Charles City. In company with Milo Gilbert he bought a half interest in Charles City and the water-power of Joseph Kelly. Dr. Palmer practiced medicine in Charles City until his death, which occurred Oct. 9, 1872, aged seventy-five years and one day. He was married four times. He first married Miss Samantha Blair, Nov. 17, 1825; they had one son and three daughters; three daughters living, viz.: Martha, wife of Wm. D. Smith, a farmer of Rockford, Floyd County; Margaret, wife of Milo Gilbert, of Nora Springs; Mary, wife of George Squires, of Ohio. The mother died Jan. 10, 1835. Dr. Palmer then married Miranda Isball, Nov. 19, 1835. The fruit of this marriage was five children, one son and four daughters, two living, viz.: Malinda, wife of John Howland, residing on a farm at Blue Earth City, Minn., and A. E. Palmer, subject of this sketch. The mother died April 8, 1848. She was a member of the M. E. church. Dr. Palmer then married Miss N. Rhodes, April 29, 1849. They had one daughter, viz.: Eva, wife of Henry McGowen; they reside at Clear Lake, Ia. The mother died Oct. 27, 1856. Dr. Palmer married Mrs. Jane Howland, March 12, 1857. Her maiden name was Lowell. They had one daughter—Eugenia, wife of a Mr. West. A. E. Palmer, subject of this memoir, in 1854, came with his parents to Charles City, and attended school until seventeen, when he began farming, and bought land, which he still owns. He married Miss Alice Stahl, at Panora, Ia., Nov. 27, 1873. She was born in Ohio, and was a daughter of Harmon and Mary (Moffitt) Stahl; he of Pennsylvania and she of Ohio. They were members of the M. E. church, and had a family of two sons and two daughters. After his marriage Mr. Palmer settled on his farm, where they still reside, in the suburbs of Charles City.



Mrs. Palmer is a member of the Baptist church. They have a family of four children, viz.: N. Harmon, born Oct. 10, 1874; M. Miranda, Aug. 31, 1877; J. Elston, Aug. 30, 1879, and Irwing S., Sept. 15, 1881. Mr. Palmer owns thirty-eight acres of land inside of city corporation, and three lots and his residence. He is one of the old settlers of Floyd County, where he has been identified since 1854. There was but one frame house in Charles City when he came, and his sister, Mrs. Malinda Howland, taught the first school in Charles City. In politics Mr. Palmer is a Republican, and was formerly a member of the I. O. O. F. He is one of the enterprising representative men of Charles City.

*William M. Palmer, M. D.*, Charles City, was born in Lincolnville, then Hancock, now Waldo County, Me., on Jan. 23, 1809. He was the second son of a family of eleven children, born of Nathaniel and Susan (Pendleton) Palmer, the former a native of Massachusetts, the latter of Maine. He lived on his father's farm and attended school until twenty years of age, when he left the paternal roof to make his own way in the world, going to Somerset County, Me., where he engaged in farming and studied medicine until 1857, and then engaged in the practice of his profession. He was united in marriage with Ann Shaw, at Palmyra, on Sept. 29, 1833. She was born in Winthrop, Me., a daughter of S. C. and Rachael Shaw, *nee* Sinkler. Of eight children, born of this union four are living—Maria, married W. D. Balch, a banker of Charles City; L. G., engaged in mining in Missouri; Mary E., wife of Judge Reiniger, banker of Charles City; Bina S., wife of Alford Wood, a merchant at Gallasen, Col. J. R., the eldest son, enlisted in the First Illinois Cavalry, and was killed at the battle of Lexington, Mo., while bravely defending his country's cause; LeRoy was a drummer boy in the Twenty-first Maine Infantry, and died in the hospital at City Point, Va.; Eveline died in Palmyra, Me., aged fourteen years and ten months, and Kate, wife of L. H. Cheney, died in Charles City, aged twenty years and ten months. Dr. Palmer located in Charles City, in March, 1865, and has been engaged in active practice here since, and has met with flattering success. He is a Mason and a prominent member of the St. Charles Lodge, No 141; is also a member of the chapter. He has served as a member of the City Council, and while a resident of Palmyra was elected to many public positions of trust, being elected to the office of Legislator in 1848. Politically he was formerly a Jackson Democrat, but since the organization of the

Republican party has been one of its strongest supporters. Dr. Palmer came of English ancestry and is a descendant of two brothers of that name, who came over in the "Mayflower."

*E. L. Pease*, manufacturer of fine buggies, carriages and wagons, Charles City, established his factory here in the spring of 1865. He employs first-class workmen, including wagon-makers, carriage painters, trimmers and blacksmiths. He is prepared to first-class work, which he warrants. This is one of the leading manufactories of Charles City. Mr. Pease was born in Colesville, Broome County, N. Y., March 9, 1832. His parents were Isaac and Hannah (Clark) Pease, who were natives of Massachusetts, and members of the M. E. church. They had a family of three sons and two daughters. E. L., subject of this memoir, was the youngest, and when three years of age, in 1835, he removed with his parents to Hancock County, Ill., and one year after removed with his parents to Chautauqua County, N. Y., and attended school and worked on a farm until nineteen, when he began to work at the carriage-maker's trade. One year after they went to Hume, Allegany County, for two and a half years; thence to Jamestown two years, then at Ripon, Wis., where he worked until spring of 1865, when he came to Charles City and established his present business. Mr. Pease married Miss Catherine Webster at Poplar Grove, Boone County, Ill., June 18, 1862. She was born in New York, and was a daughter of N. S. Webster, lumber and coal dealer at Poplar Grove, Ill. Mrs. Pease is a member of the Baptist church, and she and husband have two sons and one daughter, viz.: Frank N. and Fred E., born May 16, 1863, working in the carriage factory with their father; and Miss Anna M., born in Charles City, Dec. 2, 1865; she resides with her parents. Mr. Pease is one of the enterprising business men of Charles City, where he has resided since 1865. In politics he is a Republican, and he is of English descent.

*Nathan Phelps*, manufacturer of wagons, carriages and buggies, and dealer in all kinds of agricultural implements, is one of the leading manufacturers of Charles City. He was born in Pembrokehire, Wales, Oct. 31, 1845, and was a son of William and Martha (Hodges) Phelps, who have a family of five sons and five daughters. Nathan being the youngest son. When eight years of age he came with his parents to America; landed in New York City, and located in Chicago, Ill., where he remained one year; then moved

to Lake County, Ill., and in 1857 came to Decorah, Ia., where he learned the blacksmith and wagon-maker's trade, and in 1868 came to Charles City, and established his present agricultural business; in 1873 he began the manufacture of wagons, carriages, etc. Mr. Phelps married Miss Emma E. Stearns, Dec. 9, 1869; she was born in Lake County, Ill., a daughter of John Stearns. Mrs. Phelps is a member of the Congregational church. They have had a family of two daughters and one son, viz.: Fred., Bertha and Veara. Mr. Phelps is a member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity, Charles City lodge, and chapter. In politics, he has always been a supporter of the Republican party. He is one of the enterprising manufacturers and business men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1868.

*Henry C. Raymond*, President and half-owner of the Boss Harrow Manufacturing Company, and Vice-President of the First National Bank, Charles City, was born in Niskayuna, Schenectady County, N. Y., Jan. 5, 1838, a son of Henry A. and Catherine M. (Miller) Raymond. His father was a native of Connecticut and a minister of the Dutch Reform church of America; she was also a member of this church. They had a family of six sons and four daughters. Henry C., the subject of this sketch, was the second son. When ten years of age, he removed with his parents to Owasco, Cayuga County, N. Y., and two years later he went to Newark, N. J., and worked in his uncle's patent-leather factory two years; then returned to Owasco, and attended school until fifteen. He attended the Brockport Academy at Brockport, N. Y., one year; then joined his parents at Vischer's Ferry, Saratoga County, N. Y., his father having been installed minister of the church there. That winter, at the early age of sixteen, he began to teach school. He taught two terms in Rosedale Township, Schenectady County, and in the spring of 1855 went to Newark, N. J., and worked with his uncle until the fall of 1855, when he came West. He worked for a farmer in Rockton Township, Winnebago County, Ill., until winter; then taught school near Beloit, Wis., until the spring of 1856, and then canvassed for a historical work some three months. He went to Janesville, Wis., where he was bill clerk two months in the railroad office; then learned telegraphy, and was an assistant in the city office of the Western Union Company until the winter of 1857, when he engaged as bookkeeper and buyer for a grain merchant at Clinton, Wis., and in the spring of 1857 he came to Waterloo, Ia. He clerked in a

dry-goods store there until 1858, when he was sent in charge of a stock of goods to Mankato, Minn., and opened a store, remaining there until July, 1858, when he engaged with a Government surveying company, to survey the Sioux Reservation on the Redwood River. The following winter he returned to Waterloo; soon afterward went East on a visit, and in the spring of 1859 he joined his brother at Waterloo, and formed a partnership with him in the mercantile business. In 1862 he left the store in charge of his brother, and enlisted in Company C, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and was elected Lieutenant of this company, and afterward commissioned Captain. He was mustered out at close of the war, and returned to his store at Waterloo. Soon after he and his brother bought out J. F. Brown, a merchant at Waverly, Ia., and remained in business there until June, 1868, when he came to Charles City. Mr. Raymond purchased some lots in Charles City, and opened a store of general provisions, which he sold to Vandenberg and Kosinke, in August, 1880. Mr. Raymond is proprietor and owner of "Raymond Hall," and Vice-President of the First National Bank, of Charles City, and was one of the original incorporators of this bank. He is also one of the proprietors of the Elm Spring Creamery, Charles City, and is half owner of the Boss Harrow Manufacturing Company. He married Mrs. Julia A. Siver in Unadilla, Otsego County, N. Y., June 19, 1875; she was born in New York City, and was a daughter of Geo. and Dorothy (Hardcastle) Raw. Mrs. Raymond first married Charles C. Siver. The fruit of this marriage was one daughter, viz.: Nellie G. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond are members of the First Congregational Church in Charles City, and have had two children, one living, viz.: Grace B., born Nov. 23, 1876. Mr. Raymond is a Mason and member of St. Charles Lodge, No. 141, Almond Chapter and Eastern Star Chapter; he has held the office of C. of H. in this chapter. He is one of the leading manufacturers and enterprising, representative business men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1868. In politics he is a Republican, and voted for the amendment, in 1882. He is of French and Holland, and she of English, descent.

*E. A. Reiniger*, Sheriff of Floyd County, was born in Seneca Township, Seneca County, O., June 1, 1836. His parents, Gustavus Reiniger and Rose, *nee* Derr, were natives of Wurtemberg, Germany, who emigrated to America in 1828, landed in New York, and settled in Seneca County, O. They had a family of three

sons and three daughters, E. A. being the youngest. His early life was spent in attending school and assisting on the farm, and when about fifteen years of age, he learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, at which he worked in Ohio until the fall of 1855, when he came to Floyd County, and obtained employment at his trade. In April, 1861, in response to the President's call for 75,000 men, he enlisted in Company K, Third Iowa Infantry Volunteers, being the first man to offer himself on the altar of the Union's salvation, in this county. On Jan. 1, 1862, he was transferred to Company B, Seventh Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and was promoted from private to a non-commissioned officer. In July, 1862, he was sent North to enlist men to supply the depleted ranks of his company, and in September, 1862, they consolidated with Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry Volunteers, he being commissioned Second Lieutenant. He served until the close of the war; then returned to Charles City, where he followed his trade until 1870; then engaged in farming, in St. Charles Township. In October, 1881, he was elected to the office of Sheriff of Floyd County, which he still holds. On Jan 1, 1867, he was united in marriage with Clarinda, daughter of Louis and Eunice Cole, *nee* Alexander. She was born in Goshen, Vt. Mr. Reiniger is a member of I. O. O. F., Charles City Lodge, and in politics a pronounced Republican. He is one of the pioneers and representative men of Floyd County, where he has been identified since October, 1855.

*P. Rose*, manufacturer of wagons, buggies, carriages, and repairer of farm machinery, etc., Charles City, is a native of Perthshire, Scotland, born in Crieff, April 15, 1830; a son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Drummond) Rose, likewise natives of Scotland, and members of the Presbyterian church. They had a family of seven children, of whom our subject was the eldest. In 1832 he embarked with his parents in the brig "Victoria" for America, and landed at Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of six weeks. They settled in London District, where he was educated and learned the wagon-maker's trade. He was married at Fort Atkinson, Iowa, on Jan. 1, 1860, to Hattie Updike, who was born in Batavia, Ill. Two children blessed this union, viz.: Minnie C. and Charles A., a printer of this city. The mother died Jan. 3, 1869, and Mr. Rose was married on March 20, 1862, to Lucretia Putney, who died in May, 1874. He married his present wife, Mrs. Mary B. Angell, April 21, 1877. She has five children by a former mar-

riage, viz.: Edwin I., gardener near Golden, Col.; Nellie, engaged in teaching school in St. Charles Township; C. B., working in the sash, door and blind factory; William, with his brother in Colorado, and John, employed in Wilkins's art gallery. In 1856 Mr. Rose came to Iowa, locating in Waterloo, where he constructed the first wagon made in Black Hawk County. One year later he went to Fort Atkinson, and there also made the first wagon, and in April, 1860, he came to Charles City, where he has been actively engaged in his present business since. In politics he is a strong supporter of the Republican party, and voted for the amendment in 1882.

*F. A. Roziene*, real estate dealer, loan broker, and treasurer of the Floyd County Savings Bank, was born in Wimmerby, Province of Smaland, Sweden, Aug. 7, 1835, a son of Thos. Roziene and Fredrika, *nee* Lagervall. Prior to emigrating to this country he spent seven years in Lap'and, arriving in the United States, on Dec. 1, 1854. He enlisted in the Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry in June, 1862, as a private, and served in the Mississippi Valley with his regiment. For gallant and meritorious services he was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant, and was detached from the command at Vicksburg, and appointed Assistant Commissary of Muster (mustering officer), department of Mississippi, in June, 1865, and was retained in that capacity until May, 1866. He was Assistant Provost Marshal at Vicksburg, in 1864 and 1865. Mr. Roziene settled in Charles City, Ia., in 1868. He was married to Adeline A. Barnes, on Jan. 5, 1866, at Elk Grove, Cook County, Ill., her birth-place. She is a daughter of Joseph A. Barnes and Eliza, *nee* Wilder, who settled in Chicago in 1833. Two children have blessed their union, viz.: Frederick B., born Aug. 28, 1867, and Addie E., April 10, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Roziene are members of the Congregational church. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. fraternity, and in politics is a Republican.

*Charles H. Shaw*, proprietor of the Union House, Charles City, is a native of Maine and was born in the city of Bangor, Penobscott County, on Oct. 3, 1848. His father, James M. Shaw, was a merchant of Bangor, Me., where he married Susan Tyler; they are members of the Baptist church, and now reside in Northwood, Ia. They had a family of six daughters and one son, five daughters and one son living. Chas. H., subject of this sketch, was the third child. He attended school in Corinth until seventeen when he

engaged in the mercantile business in Bangor, a member of the firm of Boden & Shaw, grocers, until August, 1876, when he sold out and came to Charles City, where he has since been engaged in the hotel business. In January, 1882, he purchased the Union House, for an account of which, see Chapter XVII. No one can excel "Charlie Shaw" in keeping a good hotel.

*George P. Smith*, proprietor of the Charles City Sash, Door and Blind Factory, was born in Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, N. Y., March 9, 1836, a son of George E. Smith, Sr., a cabinet-maker by trade, and Harriet, *nee* Emerson. They were natives of New York, and members of the Episcopal church. George P., Jr., was the eldest of a family of nine children, and when two years old removed with his parents to Saratoga, N. Y., where his father embarked in the furniture business. He attended school there until twelve years of age when the family located in Burlington, Vt. His father assisted in the building of the Vermont Central R. R., and on its completion, George, Jr., was employed as fireman on an engine, and gradually rose to the position of engineer on both a freight and passenger engine. In January, 1861, he came to Iowa, locating in Floyd, Floyd County. He enlisted in August, 1862, in Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and served until the close of the war, being promoted in 1864 to rank of Quartermaster of his regiment. Upon leaving the service he came to Charles City and engaged in running stationary engines until 1875, when he purchased a half interest in his present factory with D. Andrews, and in December, 1881, Mr. Andrews sold his interest to Geo. T. Willman, who in March, 1882, disposed of his interest to Mr. Smith, who has since conducted it alone. The factory gives direct employment to thirteen men, and is the only one of the kind in Floyd County, and the second established in Northwestern Iowa. Mr. Smith was married Oct. 12, 1871, to Frances E. Tuttle, of Rockford, Ill., and a daughter of Daniel and Rebecca (Bowen) Tuttle, who were among the settlers of Floyd County in 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one child, a daughter, Ivy, born July 12, 1872. Mr. Smith is a Mason and a member of St. Charles Lodge, No. 141. He has served as a member of the City Council two years, and politically is a Republican. He came of Scotch ancestry and is a descendant of Alexander McGregor, founder of the town of McGregor, Ia.

*Joel Washington Smith* is one of the oldest physicians and older residents of Floyd County. He came here in 1857, when thirty-two years of age. He was born in Franklin, Delaware County, N. Y., July 23, 1824. The most remote member of his family that is clearly authenticated was Thomas Smith,—born near 1700. Traditionally, he or his near ancestors emigrated from Haverhill, in Northeastern Massachusetts, to Feeding Hills, in West Springfield, Mass., where he and several succeeding generations resided. His wife was Abigail, daughter of Anthony Austin, of Suffield, Conn. His father, Anthony, when about twenty-two years of age, went from Boston to Suffield. He was the youngest child of Christian Jew parents, that, near the time of Luther, to escape religious (?) persecution, fled from Bohemia or Hungary to Holland, then to England; and thence the widow with three boys—youngest, three years—and two girls, came to Boston. There she soon married a merchant and the children were well educated for those times. Mrs. Smith lived to the age of ninety-eight. They had two sons, John and Thomas. The descendants of the latter are numerous about Springfield, and are widely scattered.

John married M. Stockwell. They had four sons and two daughters. He died at Franklin, N. Y. One son, Anthony, had a large family, and died at Whiting, Vt., in 1853. Juba and Thomas, with families, removed to Springfield, Bradford County, Pa. The daughters married but had no children.

The other son, Darius—Doctor's grandfather—was born 1766; near 1790, married Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Colegrove and Mary Olin. She is reported as born at Preston, R. I. There is such a place in New London County, Conn., adjoining—none in Rhode Island. Colgrove was of English descent. Died at Southwick, Mass. Family removed to New York. About 1801 Darius Smith and family removed to Franklin, N. Y. Six children grew up. His wife died near 1828 at Otego, Otsego County, N. Y.; he, at Franklin, 1849; both were buried at Otego.

Their elder son, Silas, Doctor's father, was born at Feeding Hills, Sept. 3, 1794; died at Franklin, N. Y., April 10, 1878. His wife—married 1821—was Lydia, eldest daughter of Major Joel Gillett, of Franklin, N. Y., who emigrated from Hebron, Conn., near 1806. She was born at the latter place 1801; died at Franklin, 1877.

The earliest Gillett ancestor known was John—said to be Welsh—born at Rehoboth, Mass., near Providence, R. I. He was taken prisoner at Deerfield, Mass., by the Indians and French, Sept. 16,



1696; taken to Quebec; a servant for a time at a nunnery, and returned home the next year (?) via France and England; settling at Lebanon, Conn.,—farther from Indians,—where he had a large family. One son was Ebenezer; a son of his, Ezekiel, born at Lebanon, April 3, 1743, was, during the Revolution, one of the staff, or body-guard, of Gov. Trumbull, of Lebanon. Ezekiel married Dorcas Hawkins, born May, 1739, at Coventry, Conn. He removed to Hebron, Conn., near 1768. Major Gillett was one of his sons, born at Hebron, Feb. 7, 1773; with his family removed to Franklin, N. Y., 1806—'7, where he died 1853. His wife, Clarissa, born March 28, 1778, daughter of Capt. Thomas Carrier and Lydia Ingham, of Marlborough, Conn., is reported a descendant of Martha Allen, wife of Thomas Carrier. She was put to death for witchcraft at Salem. They had thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters; all grew to maturity and eight of them are living (1882). Her age was eighty-five. Major Gillett was a captain of artillery, and the Doctor's father a private in the war of 1812.

Silas Smith was a successful farmer, living fifty-five years, or until his death, April 10, 1878, upon the same farm, at Franklin, N. Y. Joel W. is the second of the twelve children. He has eight brothers and two sisters living. The father and nine sons cast ten votes for Gen. Grant for President in 1868.

It was thus the good fortune of the subject of this sketch to spend the early years of his life upon a farm—to learn to work. He was born in a log house,—is not ashamed to own it either; was an average boy, though called a trusty one, and spent his time as was usual with boys of the place and period. Some of the occupations were, turning grindstone, helping clear the heavy timbered land, building stone walls for fences, catching trout—then plenty—and attending the district school in winter. His impressions of picking up stones into heaps on mowing land, and planting and hoeing corn and potatoes in tough, stony soil, were not favorable to such farming.

When fifteen, he was sent to the academy in Franklin,—“Delaware Literary Institute,”—even then, as later, a school of high reputation. Until 1846, each winter, with one exception, was spent there or in teaching; the other time upon the farm. Fortunately, if his early opportunities were somewhat limited, he made the best possible use of what he had. Home influences, business training and most of the surroundings were good. While he liked farming

and teaching pretty well, as successful in each, he did for a time think of becoming a civil engineer, but finally decided to be what he had long thought of, a physician. Most of the time from 1846 to 1850 was spent in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York City, pursuing professional studies,—teaching several terms to partly defray expenses,—and graduating at Yale in January, 1850. Previous to and after that time, he took special courses of instruction in New York, being the private pupil of Prof. William Detmold, a distinguished physician and surgeon of that city.

April 4, 1850, he married Susan Maria, only daughter of William Wheat, Esq., of East Franklin—Croton Postoffice—New York, where she was born, Jan. 8, 1826. Her father was born 1796, at Marlborough, Hartford County, Conn. When twelve years of age, his parents removed to Franklin, N. Y., where he died in 1871. His father, also William, was a sea captain in early life. His wife was Mary, daughter of Joshua Bolles and Eunice Shepherd, she of Hartford, Conn; each died at Franklin; she, March 4, 1839; her husband near 1866, aged ninety-six years. They had a family of nine children. The Captain's father was Solomon Wheat, a preacher and a physician. He and his wife, Rebecca or Susannah Richardson died at Franklin New York. They had thirteen children, of whom twelve grew up. Their descendants are widely scattered. Traditionally, the Wheats were Welsh.

Mrs. Smith's mother—wife of William Wheat, Esq.—was Altamira, eldest daughter of Deacon Thomas Wolcott and Margery Boyd, of East Franklin, N. Y., where Deacon Wolcott and wife died. The family came from near Southampton, Mass., where Mrs. Wheat was born. She died Sept. 27, 1871, aged sixty-nine years. Four of their five children are living.

Doctor Smith practiced successfully in his native county and town until 1857, when he removed to Charles City, then St. Charles. His quick perception, industry, good judgment, thorough medical education, kindness and gentlemanly deportment have been appreciated; and professionally he now ranks the equal of any physician of his years in the State. In practice, he has always been conservative, yet progressive and independent. He has never thought that to use drugs was the only way by which the good physician may earn his fee. His great excellence has been a rare gift of seeing the end from the beginning, and using such means, and such means only, as he believed might aid nature in her work of

restoration. As a pioneer surgeon he has been quick to improvise means to accomplish the best results ; and he has performed many new and delicate operations, usually attempted only by city specialists. The prevention and cure of disease by hygienic and sanitary measures early engaged his attention,—too often to his cost,—and long before it was the popular subject that it now is with the more intelligent classes. He has always preferred to excel in one calling—his profession—to engaging in too many other things, politics included. Pecuniarily, he has been reasonably successful, though a poor collector for himself. The key note of permanent success with him, as in all cases, has been to try do everything well, and observe the golden rule in all his dealings.

A man of quiet demeanor and kindly nature, of intelligent but positive views, of deep convictions and large common sense, cannot fail to impress the community and age in which he lives. Taking a deep interest and an active part in all educational, moral and material interests ; contributing liberally to benevolent objects according to his means ; at times holding various positions of public trust, in none of which was his integrity or ability ever questioned. None but himself can know, and eternity only can reveal, the labors, the sacrifices and pecuniary cost to himself of the work which he has done for the schools of Charles City and vicinity. This alone showed business capacity of high order. He has often spoken with his pen through the press of his town and other leading newspapers,—oftenest without name, that the matter might be judged by its merit,—and has contributed valuable papers in his profession. In 1876 he was a member of the International Medical Congress, at Philadelphia, a delegate from the Iowa State Medical Society. He is connected with different medical and scientific bodies, but is not a member of any secret societies, more from want of time than any other reason. While his life has been a busy and active one, he is still a student ; and with an excellent memory, possesses extensive general knowledge ; is a progressive and practical man, a close observer of men and things, an independent thinker, a good public worker when interested, and, though forgiving in his nature, abhors shams and frauds in individuals, in politics, in medicine, in religion and everywhere. As much as he desires the good opinion of his fellow men, he had rather be right than be popular. He has uniformly opposed the use of tobacco and alcoholic drinks, and worked vigorously for the Constitutional Amendment of 1882. In politics he was a Repub-

lican from the first, but places principle above party obligations. In religious belief he is liberal orthodox, a usual attendant at the Congregational church, partly from force of education, but is wholly unsectarian in his views. The family consists of four sons and one daughter,—another died when young. The eldest, Irving Wheat Smith, M. D., born in New York, March 1, 1851, graduated at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1875, and is in business with his father—Smith & Son. In 1876 he married Sallie, daughter of George Stalker and Hannah Milliken, of Richland, Keokuk County, Ia. They have one daughter—Hannah—and one has died. Ida Elizabeth, the daughter, is the wife of La Verne W. Noyes, of Chicago, a successful inventor and manufacturer. Mr. Noyes is the son of Leonard R. Noyes and Jane Jessup, former residents of Geneva, Cayuga County, N. Y., but now of Springfield, Linn County, Ia. The son and wife, daughter and husband are graduates of the Iowa State Agricultural College. William Thomas and Charles Francis—twins—born Nov. 3, 1864, and Fred Edmund, born Aug. 18, 1866, reside with their parents. Theirs is an elegant home, the family a happy one, its members commanding the respect of all who know them.

*Isaiah Snyder*, a member of the Charles City Plow Co., was born in Lancaster, Fairfield County, O., Aug. 31, 1834, a son of William Snyder, of Pennsylvania, and Elizabeth, *nee* Bixler. He was the second son of a family of six children, and when he was some three years of age his parents moved to Shelbyville, Ill., and one year later located in Sullivan, now the county-seat of Moultrie County, that State. He was there reared and educated, and when he was fourteen years old his father died, and he farmed with his mother until eighteen, when he went to Sullivan, and there followed blacksmithing and the manufacture of plows four years. In the fall of 1857 he went to Mitchell County, Ia., spent one year in a mill there, then came to Charles City. In partnership with F. R. Woolley he opened the first plow factory in Floyd County, and they made the first plow made in this county. This partnership continued until February, 1881, when the present stock company was formed. The factory had previously been enlarged from time to time, and is now one of the principal manufacturing interests of the city and county. On July 4, 1859, Mr. Snyder was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Lewis, who was born near Rockford, Ill., a daughter of Nelson and Elizabeth (Vance) Lewis. Of seven children born of this union, five are living—Bertha E., May

Antoinette, Frank L., Henry L., and George W. Mr. Snyder is a strong supporter of the Republican party, and is classed with the prominent citizens and business men of Charles City.

*Samuel H. Starr*, proprietor of the largest boot and shoe emporium in Floyd County, was born in Charles City, Ia., on May 17, 1858, a son of S. B. Starr and Adeline, *nee* Hughes. His father is one of the pioneers, and the oldest member of the bar now living in Charles City. Samuel H. attended school in his native town until 1875, when he entered the Military Academy, at Faribault, Minn., remaining there one year, then attended the college at Morgan Park, Ill., one year. He entered Bailey's Commercial College, of Dubuque, Ia., and graduated from that institution in 1878. Upon leaving school he accepted a situation as clerk in the hardware store of Townsend & Smith, which he retained two years, then, in partnership with John Ferguson, established his present store. In January, 1882, Mr. Starr purchased his partner's interest, and has since conducted the business alone. He was married Sept. 19, 1879, to Cornie Clute, who was born in New York State, a daughter of N. M. Clute, a Presbyterian minister, now located in Davenport, Ia. Mr. Starr is a prominent member of St. Charles Lodge, No. 141, A. F. & A. M., and politically favors the Republican party. He is one of the prominent and representative business men of Charles City.

*B. W. Stevens*, of the firm of Stevens, Hering & Co., wholesale and retail dealers in and manufacturers of all kinds of furniture, was born in Methuen, Essex County, Mass., Feb. 18, 1843; his father, Benjamin A. Stevens, is a native of Deerfield, Mass., born June 18, 1815, the day of the battle of Waterloo, and Oct. 20, 1839, he married Harriet Osgood at Methuen, Mass., where she was born. Of four children born of this union three are living—Harriet E., wife of William H. Coffin; B. W., subject of this sketch, and Arthur O., engaged in the furniture business at Spencer, Ia. In 1871 B. A. Stevens came with his family to Charles City, where he has since remained, and is classed with the prominent and respected citizens of the city. In politics he is a Republican. His wife died here on Dec. 8, 1881. The subject of this memoir was educated in his native town, and in 1857 removed to Bad Axe County, Wis., where he engaged in farming until 1871, when he came to Charles City and engaged in the present business. He was married on Nov. 24, 1868, to Hattie E. Atkins, born at La Porte, Ind. She was a daughter of J. T. and Amanda Atkins, *nee* Hea-

ton. They have two children—Grafton A., born June 15, 1876, and Barton, Aug. 29, 1880. In politics Mr. Stevens is strong adherent to the principles of the Republican party. The factory of Stevens, Hering & Co. is among the most prominent of the business and manufacturing interests of Charles City, and its proprietors are recognized as gentlemen of irreproachable business integrity. They give direct employment to twenty men, and their trade extends throughout the States of Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota.

*Mrs. Elizabeth Strawn*, one of the old settlers of Floyd County, and at present a resident of Charles City, was born near Chillicothe, Ross County, O., Feb. 5, 1810. Her parents were William and Elizabeth (Cating) Jolly, also natives of Ohio and members of the Presbyterian church. They had a family of four sons and six daughters; seven of the family lived to be men and women. When Mrs. Strawn, the subject of this memoir, was fifteen years of age, she removed with her parents to Indiana and settled on a farm near Covington, Warren County, where she married James Oxford, September, 1826. He was born in Ohio. The fruit of this marriage was two children, viz.: David H. Oxford, who died in 1850, and Martha, the wife of A. H. Brackett. They reside in Charles City, old settlers of Floyd County. Mr. James Oxford died in 1831; Mrs. Strawn then married Enoch Strawn and they had one daughter, viz.: Mary E., wife of John Ferguson. They reside in Charles City, and are old settlers also. Enoch Strawn died in 1854. Mrs. Strawn then came with her family to Floyd County and purchased a large tract of land in St. Charles, Township. She has since sold her farms and purchased a nice home in Charles City, where she resides. Mrs. Strawn is a member of the Christian church and has been a member of this church for the past fifty-two years. Mrs. Strawn is one of the few old settlers now living who came to Charles City in its infancy. She is now in the seventy-third year of her age and looks much younger.

*C. A. Sylvester*, of the firm of Sylvester Bros., manufacturers of fine carriages, buggies and wagons, blacksmiths and repairers, Charles City, are among the leading manufacturers of Charles City. They employ five skilled workmen and warrant all their work, using the best of material in the factory which they established here in 1879. C. A. and Fred Sylvester were sons of August and Minnie (Hoffman) Sylvester, natives of Germany. The father was a blacksmith, and he and wife had six children, three sons and

three daughters. C. A. Sylvester, the eldest, was born Nov. 20, 1854, and Fred was the third son, and was born Feb. 12, 1856. He and brother attended school in Germany until fourteen, when they learned the blacksmith's trade, continuing until 1872, when they came with their parents to America. They landed at New York, and from there came to Floyd County and settled in Charles City. The father bought a farm and C. A. and Fred began to work at their trade, and in 1879 opened their present shop. C. A. married Miss Mary Marcen, Jan. 5, 1879. She was born in Floyd County, a daughter of John Marcen. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Sylvester have two children, viz.: Charley and Miss Jessie. Mr. Sylvester and brother are enterprising, representative men and manufacturers of Charles City, and their factory is one of the principal features of the city. They also own and run the Sylvester Bros.' livery stable, and keep twenty head of horses, carriages and buggies for the accommodation of the public. In politics, independent.

*J. P. Taylor*, President of the Charles City National Bank, has been prominently identified with the business interests of this city since October, 1866. A son of John and Betsey Taylor, *nee* Pierce. He was born in Waterville, Madison County, N. Y., May 5, 1822. His boyhood was spent in Parsalia, Chenango County, N. Y., to which place his parents had removed when he was about two years old. He was educated and learned the boot and shoe trade there, where he remained until twenty-one years of age; then engaged in the boot and shoe manufacture at South Otselic, where he also built and conducted a hotel. He was married Aug. 21, 1848, to Mercelia S. Ford, who was born in South Otselic, N. Y., Aug. 25, 1827, a daughter of Dr. Norman Ford and Mary, *nee* Beach. In 1854 Mr. and Mrs. Taylor moved to Bloomington, Ill., where he engaged in the livery business until 1860, then removed to Mason City, Ia. He engaged in farming and in the sale of agricultural implements there until October, 1866, when he settled in Charles City, and continued the latter business here until 1879. In March, 1871, he, in company with Charles Siver, organized the First National Bank, with which he was actively connected until 1875. In 1876 he and S. F. Farnham organized the Charles City National Bank, of which he has since been President. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have had one child, a son—Frauk V., born June 25, 1858, who is bookkeeper and assistant cashier in his father's bank. He was educated in the common and high schools of this city, and in the military college of Faribault, Minn. The subject of this memoir

owns ninety acres of land in St. Charles Township, and valuable property in Charles City. He is a Mason and a member of the St. Charles Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 141. He has served acceptably in numerous township and county offices, among them that of School Director and County Supervisor. He was formerly a Whig in politics, but since the organization of the Republican party has affiliated with them. He has ever made Charles City's interests his own, and has been foremost in any project that promised advancement to her interests morally and financially.

*Ebenezer A. Teeling*, miller of the Water-Power Company, Charles City, is a native of New York, and was born at Greenbush, Rensselaer, July 30, 1832, a son of Charles and Susan (Crandall) Teeling. His father was born at Teeling's Bay, Donegal County, Ireland, where he was married, and soon after, in 1830, came to America; they located in East Troy, N. Y., and subsequently removed to Greenbush. They were members of the Presbyterian church and had a family of five sons and five daughters, Ebenezer, the subject of this sketch, being the eldest. He resided in Greenbush, and attended school at Albany, N. Y., until sixteen; then learned the miller's trade, which he followed in Albany and New York City until twenty-one, when he came to Watertown, Wis., and worked in a mill one year; thence to Stoughton, Dane County, Wis., and worked at his trade until April, 1856, when he came to Charles City, Ia. He was employed in the first mill in the county, and worked here and held the office of Assistant Deputy Sheriff of Floyd County until 1862, when he was appointed Special Agent, Deputy Provost Marshal to the War Department, and held that office until the fall of 1865, when he was mustered out; he then ran the mill until January, 1868, when he was elected Clerk of the District Court, and held that office until 1871, then resumed his former business and ran this mill until it was torn down in 1876; since then has been miller in the present new mill. Mr. Teeling has been in the employ of the Water-Power Company since they purchased the water-power. He married Ellen Ingram, Aug. 18, 1860, at Charles City, Ia.; she was born at Fairfield, Vt., and was a daughter of Henry and Ann (Sharkey) Ingram, natives of Ireland, and members of the Catholic church. Mr. and Mrs. Teeling are members of the Congregational church, and have had two children, viz.: Clara J., born May 16, 1861, and Jessie, Dec. 30, 1870. Mr. Teeling is one of the oldest settlers now living in Floyd County; he came to Charles City when it was in its infancy,



and has seen its rapid growth. In politics he is a Republican, and is one of the enterprising representative men of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1856; he was formerly a member of I. O. O. F., and at present a member of the Good Templars Society, and was one of the first that organized this lodge; he is at present Alderman of the Fourth Ward, and voted for the amendment in 1882, and presented the present prohibition ordinance of Charles City in April, 1882.

*Joseph S. Trigg*, Mayor of Charles City, and partner in the firm of White, Trigg & Co., proprietors of the Elm Spring Creamery, is a native of Hertfordshire, England, born April 8, 1841. His parents, Joseph S. Trigg, Sr., and Susannah, *nee* Wilkerson, were likewise of English nativity, and had a family of six sons and three daughters, of whom Joseph S., Jr., was the eldest. He received his education in his native shire, and when twelve years of age came with his parents to the United States, landing in New York City, thence to Fond du Lac, Wis. They engaged in farming there until 1859, then removed to Freeborn, Minn., and settled on a farm. In August, 1862, Mr. Trigg enlisted in Company E, Tenth Minnesota Infantry, and bravely defended his country's cause until the close of the war, when he was mustered out at Memphis, Tenn. He returned to Fond du Lac and was there married on Oct. 3, 1865, to Laura M. Spafford, a native of Vermont, and a daughter of David and Olive Spafford. Five children have been born unto them—Mabel E., Gertrude L., Olive B., Frank E., and Elsie L. After his marriage Mr. Trigg settled on a farm in Freeborn County, Minn., where he resided until 1870, when he located in Floyd County. He farmed in St. Charles Township, until he was appointed Deputy County Auditor in January, 1872. In April, 1874, he was elected Auditor of Floyd County, and by subsequent election held the office until January, 1882, and the following April was elected Mayor of Charles City, for which position he has shown himself to be eminently fitted. He is a member of Charles City Lodge, No. 153, A. O. U. W., and politically favors the Republican party. The Elm Springs Creamery was established in May, 1880, by H. D. White and J. S. Trigg, the present owners. The creamery has a capacity of manufacturing 2,100 pounds of butter and 1,500 pounds of cheese daily. They have \$5,000 invested in the building, machinery, etc., and the cost of operation is about \$200 per day. It is one of the principal manufactories of the city, giving direct employment to fourteen men. The butter,

owing to its superior quality is greatly in demand in the Eastern markets, while the cheese finds a ready sale at home.

*W. G. Tripp*, of the firm of *W. G. Tripp & Co.*, dealers in groceries and drugs, Charles City, was born in the town of De Ruyter, Madison County, N. Y., on Nov. 13, 1839. His parents were Israel and Eliza A. (Whitcomb) Tripp, he a native of New York, and she of Vermont State. They were members of the Presbyterian church and had a family of three children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest. When he was four years old his parents moved to Boone County, Ill., and he attended school there and at Belvidere, Ill., until he was seventeen years old, and then clerked for different parties in Belvidere until 1860, when he went to Colorado and engaged in mining there two years. From there he went to Memphis, Tenn., where he was chief clerk in the Government ordnance department two years, then returned to Belvidere, Ill. He engaged in mercantile business there until the spring of 1867, when he came to Charles City and embarked in his present business. He is the recipient of a large and lucrative trade, and is classed with the prominent and influential business men of this city. On June 10, 1868, Mr. Tripp was united in marriage with Mary A. Gardner, at Belvidere, Ill., where she was born. Her father, Cephas Gardner, was a native of Vermont. They have one child, a daughter, Alice G., born Aug. 21, 1872. Mr. Tripp is a Mason and a member of St. Charles Lodge, No. 141, and Almond Chapter, No. 53. Politically, he is a Republican. He was elected a member of the City Board in March, 1882.

*Waldo Wait*, retired farmer, residing in Charles City, is one of the old settlers of Floyd County. He was born in Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., April 13, 1801. His parents were Benjamin and Ann (Waldo) Wait; he was a native of Rhode Island, and she of Connecticut. They were both members of the Baptist church, and had a family of seven sons and six daughters. Waldo, subject of this sketch, and one sister were twins, and the youngest of the family. There are but two of the family now living, viz.: Archibald Wait, a retired Baptist minister, residing in Chicago, Ill., and Waldo, subject of this memoir. He attended school in Hebron, N. Y., until fifteen, when he removed with his parents to a small village near Auburn, N. Y., for two years; then to Leeds County, Canada West, and they settled on a farm twelve miles north of Brockville. Waldo was married here to Miss Rose Duck-

lon, May 22, 1826; she was born in Elizabethtown, Leeds County, Canada West, Oct. 10, 1810; she was a daughter of Stephen and Harriet (Freell) Ducklon. Mr. and Mrs. Wait resided on their farm in Canada until the fall of 1856, when they came to Floyd County, Ia., and soon after purchased a farm in St. Charles Township, where they resided until 1865, when Mr. Wait sold his farm and purchased a home in Charles City, where he has since lived, retired from active business. Mr. and Mrs. Wait are members of the Baptist church and have been members of this church for the past fifty years. They have had two sons, viz.: William H., born in Canada West, July 21, 1845; he enlisted in Company C, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and died May 9, 1864, from disease contracted during his service in the army. Henry M. Wait was born in Canada West, May 20, 1851; he married Miss Ida Pratt. They reside in Charles City and have had three children, viz.: Howard W., Henry W., and Miss Mamie Wait. Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Wait are of a few old settlers now living. They came to Charles City when it was in its infancy, and have lived to see the various changes of the county and city since that time; they are true representatives of Floyd County pioneers.

*H. D. White*, of the firm of White, Trigg & Co., proprietors of the Elm Spring Creamery, Charles City, is a native of New York, and was born in Groton, Tompkins County, June 6, 1852. His parents were M. C. and Philena (Ingram) White, natives of Massachusetts. She was a member of the Baptist church. They had a family of seven children, six sons and one daughter. The subject of this sketch was the youngest, and when five years of age he removed with his parents from New York to Kenosha County, Wis., settling on a farm near Kenosha. He attended school and worked on his father's farm, also learning the cheese and butter manufacture, and during this time he made some cheese that took the medal at the Centennial of 1876. When eighteen years of age he took charge of different cheese factories of Wisconsin, until 1877, when he came to Algona, Kossuth County, Ia., and was superintendent of eight cheese factories of that county, until the spring of 1880, when he came to Charles City, Ia, and established his present business. Mr. White married Miss Jennie E. Ferguson, at Charles City, Ia., Nov. 5, 1879; she was born at Fort Atkinson, Ia., a daughter of D. M. Ferguson, ex-Sheriff of Floyd County, and proprietor of the Lewis House, Charles City, and Malinda (Franz) Ferguson. Mr. White is a member of the Iowa Le-

gion of Honor, and he and his wife have one daughter—Edna T., born July 15, 1880. Mr. White is one of the leading manufacturers of Charles City. In politics he is a Republican. His family are of the old Puritan stock, his father being a descendant of Peregrine White, who came from England in the "Mayflower" and landed at Plymouth Rock. Mr. White's grandfather was in the war of 1812.

*R. B. Wilson*, proprietor of the Charles City Foundry, established his present business in 1877. The foundry was first started by Woolley & Snyder in connection with their plow factory. It is a building 100 feet long, the main room, blacksmith and carpenter shops being 38 x 36 feet, two stories in height, and the machine shops 26 x 24 feet, two stories, and the molding-room 36 x 26 feet. This is the first and only foundry in the city, and is one of the leading manufacturing interests. *R. B. Wilson* is a native of Vermont, and was born in Hinesburg, May 3, 1844. His parents were George W. and Mary (Oucher) Wilson; he was a native of Massachusetts, and was born at Concord, Middlesex County, and she was born in France. They had one son, viz.: *R. B. Wilson*, subject of this sketch. He was but eighteen months old when his mother died; he then went to live with his grandparents near Montreal, Canada, until five years of age, when he went to live with his father, who was a woolen manufacturer. They traveled over the New England States, and settled at Westfield, N. Y., in 1851, where his father engaged in various pursuits. *R. B.*, attended school until seventeen, when he enlisted in Company G, Seventy-second New York Infantry Volunteers; was mustered into United States service July 25, 1861, in what was called Sickles' Brigade. Mr. Wilson remained in that company until expiration of his term of service, when he was mustered out at Washington. He was wounded at the battle of Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862—a compound fracture of the right arm, the ball passing into the right side, where it still remains; another ball struck the right shoulder blade, and another passed under his chin, cutting the flesh from the chin and passing through his neck, coming out close to the jugular vein. He was in the hospital at Fortress Monroe and Philadelphia, Pa., returning to his regiment the summer of 1863. He was then transferred to the Regimental Quartermaster's Department; then in January of 1864 was transferred to the Nineteenth Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps, doing duty in the City of Washington until he was mustered out; he then

went to Westfield, N. Y., and began to learn his trade; worked in Western New York until August, 1868, when he came to Osage, Mitchell County, Ia., and remained in this vicinity until 1877, when he located in Charles City, and established his present business. Mr. Wilson married Miss Alzina M. Frazier at Hampton, Franklin County, Ia., Jan. 1, 1873; she was born in Allamakee County, Ia.; she was a daughter of D. D. Frazier, a farmer. Mrs. Wilson is a member of the M. E. church, Charles City. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have one daughter, viz.: Miss C. Buena Wilson. Mr. Wilson is a member of National Lodge, No. 165, I. O. O. F., at Charles City, Ia.; Legion of Honor, Hope Lodge, No. 76. In politics Mr. Wilson is a Republican. He is of Scotch and French descent. He is one of the enterprising, representative men and leading manufacturers of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1877.

*F. R. Woolley*, senior partner in the Charles City Plow Company, is a native of the town of Weathersfield, Rutland County, Vt., born Dec. 23, 1825, a son of John B. and Annis Woolley, *nee* Rice, also natives of the Green Mountain State. His father was a blacksmith and manufacturer of all kinds of edge tools; he died in 1849 in his sixtieth year. F. R. was the fourth son of a family of seven children, and when he was some five years old his parents removed to Genesee County, N. Y.; thence to Cattaraugus County, and from there to Trumbull County, O. F. R. resided there until 1853, when he went to Rockford, Ill.; manufactured sickles and machinists' tools there until the fall of 1855, and in the spring of 1856 he located in Charles City, Ia.; he worked at the blacksmith's trade here until 1859, when he engaged in the manufacture of plows; he built a factory in 1862, which he operated until 1876, when the present establishment was erected. Owing to the rapid increase of their business the company are building a much larger factory, wherein they can meet the demand of their extensive trade. Mr. Woolley was united in marriage in September, 1849, to Ammy Hull, who was born in Chenango County, N. Y., and was a daughter of Joseph and Mercy Hull, *nee* Briggs. They have one child, a daughter, Grace, wife of George M. May, who is workman of the furniture manufactory of this city. Mr. Woolley is one of the early settlers of Floyd County, and has ever been active in the advancement of her interests, morally and financially. He adheres to the principles of the Republican party.

*E. B. C. Wright*, retired merchant, Charles City, is a native of Ohio, and was born in Vernon Township, Trumbull County, May 23, 1824. His parents were Adam and Rhoda (Clark) Wright; he was a native of Mercer, Mercer County, Pa., and was a merchant, and opened the first store in Vernon Township, Ohio; she was a native of Connecticut, born in 1800, and a member of the Baptist church. They were married in 1818, and had a family of twelve children. E. B. C., subject of this sketch, was the eldest son. He attended school in Vernon, Ohio, until twelve years of age, when his parents emigrated to Burlington, Ia., where his father died nine years later, and his mother returned to Ohio. E. B. C. remained in Burlington, clerking and attending school until twenty-three, when he returned to Ohio, and taught school until 1849, and in that year went to the city of New York, and engaged in the mercantile business until 1857, when he came to Charles City. In company with H. W. McNabb, a retired merchant of Osage, Mitchell County, bought out John Ferguson & Co., and engaged in the mercantile business until 1863, when he went to New York City. He was married there to Mrs. Caroline Mann, on Feb. 11, 1863; her maiden name was Caroline Barringer. Mr. Wright engaged in the mercantile trade in New York City until 1870, when he returned to Charles City, and he and his brother, B. F. Wright, engaged in the mercantile trade until 1872, then Mr. E. B. C. Wright ran the store alone until 1879, when he closed out his business, and took the agency for canvassing the whole Northwest for the National Needle Co., of Springfield, Mass., the largest manufacturers of sewing-machine needles in the world. Mrs. Wright is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Wright is a charter member of St. Charles Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 141, and has been Master a number of years, and was the founder of the order of the Eastern Star, Excelsior Chapter. He is one of the old settlers of Charles City and the State of Iowa, having been identified with the State since March, 1836, and Floyd County since 1857. He is one of the representative business men, and has always taken an active interest in anything that promises progression to the town. In politics he is a Democrat, and a strong supporter of that party. He is of German descent. There are but three brothers and two sisters living, viz.: subject of this sketch; Mrs. H. W. McNabb, of Osage, Mitchell County, Ia.; Mrs. E. A. Mann, of New York City; B. F. Wright, Postmaster of Charles City, and J. Z. Wright, farmer of Floyd County.

*B. F. Wright.*—Among the widely known men of the county is B. F. Wright, Postmaster of Charles City, who has had the position since October, 1869. But few men are so universally known in the county, and he has of late years acquired a State acquaintance by reason of his prominent association with the "prohibitory amendment." Mr. Wright is the third son of Adam and Rhoda Wright, and was born in Vernon, Vernon Township, Trumbull County, O., Aug. 20, 1837. His father was of German descent, whilst his mother was of the old Connecticut Yankee blood. In appearance the subject of our sketch is decidedly German; height, five feet ten inches, stocky, stout, portly, weighing 245 pounds, whilst in mental qualities he displays those powers that have made Yankeedom famous. The family came to Burlington, Ia., in 1838. After the death of his father in 1843, the family returned to Vernon, O. Frank lived with his uncle, Aaron Clark, in Bloomfield, Hartford, and Vernon, until 1849, when it was arranged that he should live with his uncle, Henry Vernon, in West Williamsfield, O., until he was of age. His mother died in 1852, when Frank, through the assistance of his older brother, E. B. C. Wright, became a pupil of the Meadville Academy, Pennsylvania, and attended for several terms the Allegheny College at that place. He taught two terms of school, one at Lane's Corners and one at Randall's Corners, in Crawford County, Pa.

In the spring of 1856 he went to New York City and engaged with Rockwell & Winton in a hat and cap house, with whom he remained until May 7, 1857, when he reached Charles City and entered the employ of John Ferguson & Co., with whom he had made business arrangements before leaving the East. The mercantile house of J. Ferguson & Co. was soon succeeded by the firm of Wright & McNabb, and B. F. was long identified with the mercantile interest of Charles City, up to 1872, since which time he has given his time to his official duties and the development of a stock farm in Pleasant Grove Township, in company with his younger brother, J. Z. Wright.

In every development of the city and county Mr. Wright has taken an active and prominent part, and is said by all to be a fast friend and vigorous opponent of the Ben. Wade order. The adoption by 30,000 majority of the prohibitory amendment to the constitution of Iowa by its electors, June 27, 1882, is undoubtedly the most remarkable event in the line of prohibitory temperance which has ever occurred. Its praises are sung in churches and

schools; its triumph is published from thousands of eloquent rostrums, while family and pulpit altars will never cease to "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" for its adoption. To those who conceived, planned and executed this great measure the public are interested in knowing the details of the work.

In August, 1878, Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, widely known in Iowa as the head of the W. C. T. U., was conducting a Congressional session of that temperance organization in Charles City, and while the guest of Rev. A. N. Clute, of that place, Mr. Wright called upon her and endeavored to interest her in the matter of uniting all temperance efforts of the State in the single line of amending its Constitution. At first she was not favorably inclined to the project, but subsequently changed her mind. Mrs. Foster, in the December State session of the W. C. T. U., at Burlington, as their chairman on the legal phases of the question, presented the new idea of a constitutional amendment, but stated in her able report that she "did not claim it as original, as it had been first suggested to her by a gentleman in Floyd County." Up to this date the matter had received but little public agitation.

In February, 1879, Mr. Wright attended the State Reform meeting at Waterloo, and in a series of resolutions urged as the plan of work the constitutional amendment. His address on that occasion, the great debate of the convention on the subject, and their practical adoption of the scheme, had the effect of bringing the project prominently into newspaper discussion of the State, especially in the *Dubuque Daily Times*, edited by M. C. Woodruff, and the *Iowa State Register*, by the Clarkson brothers.

In 1879, at the Republican State Convention, Mr. Wright, in company with Col. Nate Reed, who at that time was editor of the *Northwestern News*, at Davenport, and now editor of the *Evening News* in Chicago, secured a suite of rooms at the Abom House, in the city of Des Moines, and began a systematic effort of consultation with every prohibitionist on every county delegation from all parts of the State. Hon. John H. Geer was a candidate for re-nomination for Governor by the Republican Convention. In the previous election he received a majority vote, and desiring to be U. S. Senator, he was most anxious to fill the executive office by a clear majority vote of the State, and greatly desired that the temperance element of his party should be harmonized and reconciled. Mr. Wright sought an interview with the Governor, and secured



in him a staunch ally for declaring in favor of a non-partisan vote to be taken on a prohibitory amendment.

The eleventh plank of the Republican platform of Iowa was substantially adopted and framed at a caucus of the temperance element of the Republican party in that suit of rooms, and B. F. Wright was the chairman and Nate Reed the secretary of that caucus. The plank was unanimously adopted the next day by the Republican Convention. The temperance hosts of Iowa have had a State temperance committee patterned after the Republican and Democratic parties, a member in every Congressional district. Aaron Kimball, of Cresco; B. F. Wright, of Charles City, and J. A. Harvey, of Des Moines, have been for two years respectively President, Secretary and Treasurer, and the newspapers of the State have spoken of Mr. Wright as the father of the late prohibitory amendment.

*S. P. Yeomans, M. D.*, Charles City, is a native of New York and was born in German Flats, Herkimer County, Jan. 23, 1822. His parents were Prentice and Margaret (McKinney) Yeomans, natives of Connecticut and members of the Universalist church. They have a large family of children, S. P., subject of this sketch, being the youngest son. In 1837, when fifteen years of age, he came to Iowa; crossed the Mississippi River at Fort Madison, and settled near Mt. Pleasant, Henry County, where he followed farming, and attending and teaching school until eighteen, when he began to study medicine with Dr. J. D. Payne, at Mt. Pleasant, and graduated at the Rush Medical College, at Chicago, in 1854. He then practiced medicine at Agency City, Wapello County, and Sheridan, Lucas County, Ia., and was elected to the Legislature from Lucas County in 1854. In 1855 he was appointed United States Register of the land office at Sioux City, by Pierce, and reappointed by Buchanan, and held that office six years. At the outbreaking of the Rebellion he was appointed Assistant Surgeon of the Seventh Regiment Iowa Cavalry, and remained with them until the close of the war; he then went to Clinton, Ia., and practiced medicine until 1879, when he came to Charles City, where he has practiced since. He married Clara Vale in November, 1840. She was born in Vermont, and was a graduate of the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, in 1870, and has practiced medicine since. Dr. Yeomans and wife are members of the M. E. church, and have had six children, two living viz.: Margaret S., wife of Rev. N. O. McNiff, of Minnesota Conference, and George W., an attorney at

Clinton, Iowa. Dr. Yeomans is a Mason, and was formerly a member of Olive Branch Lodge, A. F. & A. M., Agency City, and member of chapter at Sioux City. He is one of the leading physicans of Floyd County. In politics he is a Republican. In 1861 he also graduated from the Hahneimann College, Chicago. He is a member of the Iowa State Medical Society, of Homeopathic physicians.

*Professor James C. Yocum*, Superintendent of Charles City schools, is a native of Ohio, and was born in Mansfield, Ashland County, March 4, 1838. His parents were Elmore and Jane (Cameron) Yocum; he was a native of Pennsylvania, and a member of the Methodist church, and now resides at Sparta, Wis.; she was a native of Ohio, and also a member of the Methodist church. They had a family of three sons and two daughters. James C., subject of this sketch, was the eldest child. When three years of age he removed with his parents to Wooster, O., remaining there six years; thence to Sydney, Shelby County, and two years afterward to Delaware, Delaware County, O. James attended the preparatory department of the Ohio Wesleyan University one year; then removed to Plattville, Wis., and entered the Plattville Academy, prosecuting his studies there four years; then removed to Appleton, Wis., and attended Lawrence University four years; then spent two years in the New England Conservatory at Boston, Mass. He taught instrumental and vocal music in Wisconsin two years; then took charge of the Mount Hope, Wis., Seminary one year, and of the Bamson Collegiate Institute at Point Bluff, Wis., three years, and was for several years County Superintendent of Schools in Adams County, Wis. He was then appointed Principal of the Lodi, Wis., graded school, remaining there five years; thence to Boscobel graded school, at Boscobel, Wis., for two years; then came to Charles City, to accept his present position as Superintendent of Schools. He has charge of twelve schools, employing fourteen teachers. It was the Professor's intention to devote himself to the study of music, but, circumstances preventing, he abandoned that, confining himself to teaching in the public schools. Professor Yocum married Miss Mary Moore, at Point Bluff, Wis., Dec. 20, 1862; she was born at Zanesville, O., and was a daughter of Amos and Julia (Rice) Moore. Mrs. Yocum died in July, 1863. Mr. Yocum married Miss Maria Newell, at Baraboo, Wis., May, 1864; she was born in Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of Orange Newell and

Anna (Woodmasee) Newell, natives of Pennsylvania, and members of the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Yocum are members of the Methodist church, and have had four sons and three daughters, viz.: Genevieve, born July 15, 1865; Winifred, born March 9, 1867; Charles E., born May 23, 1870; Jessamine, born Aug. 5, 1874; James P., born Dec. 18, 1875; Donald C. and Wilbur F., born Jan. 18, 1882. Professor Yocum is a member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity, Charles City National Lodge, No. 165, and Good Templars Lodge, No. 4, and V. A. S. fraternity. He is one of the enterprising, representative men and citizens of Charles City, where he has been identified since 1876. In politics a Republican. He is of Scotch and German descent.



## CEDAR TOWNSHIP

is located in the northeast corner of the county. It is peculiarly situated, being only three miles wide and ten miles long. There are thirty-two full sections, two sections being added from the town of Floyd. It is range 96—15, and 97—15 west. It was organized March 31, 1856. The reason for this shaping of the town was to locate two county seats, one at Charles City and one at Osage, Mitchell County. The name of the township was taken from the fact that Little Cedar River runs through the central part of the township. This stream and its tributaries drain and water the township. The surface of the land in the western portion is considerably broken; the eastern part being generally level, it is held, principally, by speculators. The western portion is covered more frequently with jack-oak groves, and is generally well tilled, being settled by New York State, Wisconsin, Illinois and English people, who make a success of whatever they undertake. The first settlers were J. C. Townsend, Elbert Howard, and S. M. Howard, who came here in the spring of 1854. Sarah Howard, the youngest daughter of Elbert, came with them, and for six months was the only woman in the settlement. These were also early settlers: W. B. Howard, Uncle Sam Howard, Levi Hoisington and his brothers, Phineas and William; Elisha and David Crawford, Samuel Clay, Isaac Naden, Mother Bennett and her family, Mother Walling and her family, William Schermerhorn and A. C. Williams. The first school was kept in the house of W. B. Howard, in the winter of 1856 and 1857. The school numbered about twenty-five pupils, and was taught by Joseph Allen, a red-headed young man from Chickasaw. Jerome Townsend and his sister, Lavina, came three miles to this school. There are seven school-houses in the township. The school property is worth about \$4,500. The number of children of school age, Sept. 1, 1881, was 190. The average daily attendance for the year 1881, was only sixty-three. There has been schools in each district seven and one-half months on an average the past year. The total amount paid teachers for the last year was \$1,302.05, or an average of \$22.63 per month per teacher. There was only one male teacher for the year ending

(791)

Sept. 30, 1881. The total receipts of money for school purposes for the year 1881 was \$2,088.90. There was a balance in the treasury of \$444.15. The present year there will be a tax levied to pay for a new school building in District No. 7. The people of this township take a lively interest in school matters, and there is a determination to see that the rising generation shall be worthy to fill the place of the present one and to do their work even better. The first religious services were held in the house of Elbert Howard; Rev. Samuel Smith, of the Wesleyan Methodist persuasion, was the preacher. There are two church organizations in the township at the present time, the M. E. and the Wesleyan Methodist; but there is no edifice in the township. Each society has regular preaching in school-houses, once in two weeks. Each church has a Sabbath-school in connection with its meetings. The Howardville Union Sabbath-school organized by the Wesleyan Methodists, is in a flourishing condition. It was organized in 1855, and has been kept running ever since. The first superintendent was Lucien Hoisington. He died in the army and was much respected by all who knew him. The present superintendent is Charles Lewis. The school numbers from forty to fifty scholars. The following were the first officers of the township: David Crawford, J. B. Dawley and L. D. Hoisington, Trustees; W. B. Howard, Clerk; S. M. Howard, Assessor; Isaac Naden and J. C. Townsend, Justices of the Peace; Elisha Crawford and Phineas Hoisington, Constables; A. C. Williams, Road Superintendent.

The present officers of the township are: Clerk, Addis Schermerhorn; Trustees, Samuel Clay, William Boyer, Sr., and Paul Tibeau; Assessor, P. P. Cole; Justices of the Peace, W. B. Towner and S. F. Ferguson.

The teachers and number of scholars in attendance last spring term in this township will be seen in the following table:

DISTRICT NUMBER.	ENROLLMENT.	TEACHER.	LGTH. OF SCHOOL
District No. 1.....	13	Nettie Hamer.	14 weeks.
District No. 2.....	10	Kate Hoisington.	14 weeks.
District No. 3.....	13	Clara Clay.	14 weeks.
District No. 4.....	16	S. A. Taylor.	14 weeks.
District No. 5.....	16	Neba Schermerhorn.	13 weeks.
District No. 6.....	13	W. A. Wilbur.	13 weeks.
District No. 7.....	9	Kate Byrne.	12 weeks.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Joseph L. Atherton*, farmer; P. O., Stillwater; son of Ozias and Lydia (Pearsons) Atherton, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont, respectively; they died in Vermont. Joseph L. was born in Vermont, Sept. 10, 1815, where he was educated, and followed farming until he came to Iowa, in 1858; he now owns 400 acres of fine land on section 29, Cedar, and section 28, Floyd, townships; his home is in Cedar, where he has fine buildings and pleasant surroundings. In 1840 he married Lucy B., daughter of Gardner and Betsey (Proctor) Adams; she was born in Vermont, Feb. 12, 1824. This union has been blessed with four children—Ella A., born Aug. 25, 1841, wife of John Q. Adams, of Mitchell County, Ia.; Edgar F., born Mar. 23, 1845, married and living in Charles City; Eddie B., born Dec. 28, 1859; Walter E., born June 10, 1862. Mrs. Atherton is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Atherton votes the Republican ticket.

*W. H. Ballard*, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O., Charles City; son of Thomas and Ann (Bennett) Ballard, natives of England. They came to the United States about 1829, and located in Troy, where they lived a short time; then moved near Buffalo, and lived three and a half years; then came to Chicago. He built the first frame house there; he died in Lake County, Ill., in 1851. Mrs. Ballard died in Floyd County in 1873. W. H. was born in Chicago, July 5, 1834, and is one of the first white children born there. In 1862 he came to Iowa and bought a farm, and now owns 125½ acres of land on section 25, which he has in a good state of cultivation. In 1861 he married Melinda A., daughter of Ephraim and Nancy (Irving) Bruce, natives of Vermont. They came to Iowa, and now live with W. H. Ballard. Mr. Ballard and wife have been blessed with seven children, six living—George H., born Mar. 4, 1863; Annette, April 20, 1864; Edith, Aug. 20, 1865; Nellie, Jan. 29, 1871; Mary, Oct. 22, 1873, died Sept. 10, 1875; Alida, born Feb. 23, 1878, and a baby boy, born May 23, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Ballard are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Mr. Ballard votes the Republican ticket. He deals in fine stock considerably, Norman and Clydesdale being his fancy.

*George Bennett*, farmer; postoffice, orchard; son of Stephen and Betsey (Knickerbacker) Bennett, natives of New York. George was born in Lake County, Ill., Dec. 14, 1844; he was educated in Iowa, where the family moved in 1855. Mr. Bennett has followed

farming and now owns 228 1-3 acres on sections 22 and 27, Cedar Township—which is finely cultivated. In 1872 he married Jennie L., daughter of Theodore and Jane Wilson, natives of New York and New Hampshire respectively. By this union there are three children—Bessie A., born Sept. 15, 1875; Emma Louisa, Aug. 29, 1878; Samuel Wilson, March 9, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. He votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Bennett is paying considerable attention to fine stock; the Clydesdale is his specialty.

*Samuel Bennett*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; son of Stephen and Betsey (Knickerbacker) Bennett, natives of Dutchess County, N. Y. Samuel was born in Illinois, Nov. 10, 1840, where he was educated. In 1855 he came to Iowa. He has followed farming and now owns 218 acres of finely improved land on sections 26 and 35. In 1861 he married Sarah, daughter of Israel and Mary (Warren) Walling, natives of New York; they came to Iowa at an early day, where Mrs. Walling died. Mrs. Bennett was born in New York in 1844; by this union, there are two children—Stephen Curtis, born April 11, 1864, and Mary Frances, Oct. 30, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. He votes the Republican ticket.

*William Bleckly*, farmer and baker; postoffice, Charles City; was born in England, April 21, 1814; he was educated there and learned the trade of a baker, which he worked at until he came to the United States, in 1846; he bought a farm in Wisconsin where he lived nineteen years; he then came to Iowa and bought his present farm of 160 acres on section 30, where he now lives. He now owns eighty acres, having given his son eighty acres of the original farm. His house was struck by a cyclone on the 17th of July, entirely demolishing the greater part of it, carrying fragments eighty rods away, distributing a cook stove for ten rods, tearing up apple-trees and destroying everything in its way. In 1839 he married Maria, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Edwards, natives of England, where they died. By this union there have been six children, five living—Ellen, born Feb. 6, 1841, wife of John Bloomhall, of Dakota; Carrie, born Feb. 14, 1842, wife of George Boyer, of Dakota; George, born Sept. 19, 1843, married; Kate, born Sept. 9, 1845, wife of Frank Houghy; Eliza Ann, born Dec. 5, 1847, wife of R. W. Town, of Dakota. The first four were born in England; Eliza Ann, in Dane County, Wis. Mr. Bleckly and family are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Bleckly votes the Republican ticket.

*William Boyer*, farmer; P. O., Charles City; son of Samuel and Jane (Boyer) Boyer, natives of England, where they died. William was born June 30, 1823, and educated in England. He worked in a chemical laboratory until he came to the United States, in 1846. He located in Dane County, Wis., coming out with what was then known as the "British Temperance Emigration Society," which soon broke up. Mr. Boyer purchased a farm, and has followed this occupation, living in Wisconsin until January, 1867, when he came to Iowa, purchasing 245 acres of fine land on section 30. He has sold a portion, and now owns 165 acres of finely cultivated land and a good home. In 1842 he married Mary, daughter of John and Mary (Tyson) Lowndes, of England, where they died. Mary was born Aug. 11, 1822. This union has been blessed with ten children, eight living—George, born July 20, 1843, married, and living in Dakota; Mary Jane, born Oct. 19, 1845, died May 31, 1847; G. L., born Feb. 25, 1849, married, and living in Dakota; Olive Melissa, born May 24, 1851, wife of Levi Pierce, living in Dakota; Martha Ann, born Nov. 14, 1853, wife of W. H. Hill, living in Dakota; William, born May 24, 1856, married and living in Dakota; Mary, wife of S. R. Laughlin, of Dakota, was born April 18, 1858; C. W., born Dec. 13, 1860, living in Dakota; R. F., Aug. 19, 1863; one child died in infancy. Mr. Boyer and all his family are members of the M. E. church, in which he is a local deacon, and supplies Orchard Circuit. He has held many of the township offices, and is at present one of the Trustees. He votes the Republican ticket. He is one of the substantial and reliable men of Floyd County.

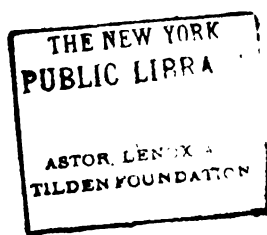
*Samuel Clay*, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O., Orchard Station, Mitchell County. Mr. Clay is the fourth child of his father's family of fourteen children. He was born in England, Jan. 5, 1830, and remained there until his twenty-second year; then came to the United States, and located in Illinois, where he remained three years; then came to Iowa and entered a quarter section of his present homestead. He now owns 545 acres of excellent land on sections 21, 22 and 27, all under an excellent state of cultivation. Mr. Clay has been an extensive grain-raiser, but recently has changed his manner of farming, and is giving much attention to fine stock; Norman and Clydesdale horses are his specialty; he has several of the best of these horses to be found in the county, and persons desiring to improve their stock should examine his before purchasing. In 1852 he married Mary Ann Landon, a native



of the north of Ireland, where her parents still live. Three children blessed this union—Ada Alberta, wife of Charles Knowlton, of Floyd Township; Herbert Harrison, living in Idaho, and John William. Mrs. Clay died in 1857. Mr. Clay married, in 1858, Rosetta, daughter of Benjamin and Jane (Workman) Shaw, natives of England, where they died. Mrs. Clay was born in England, Oct. 19, 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Clay have been blessed with a family of four children—Clara Jane, born 1859; Mary Ann, born 1861; Henry W., born 1864; Katie, born 1866. Mr. Clay has held many of the township offices, and has faithfully discharged all the duties thereof, and is one of the prominent and respected citizens of Floyd County. He votes the Republican ticket.

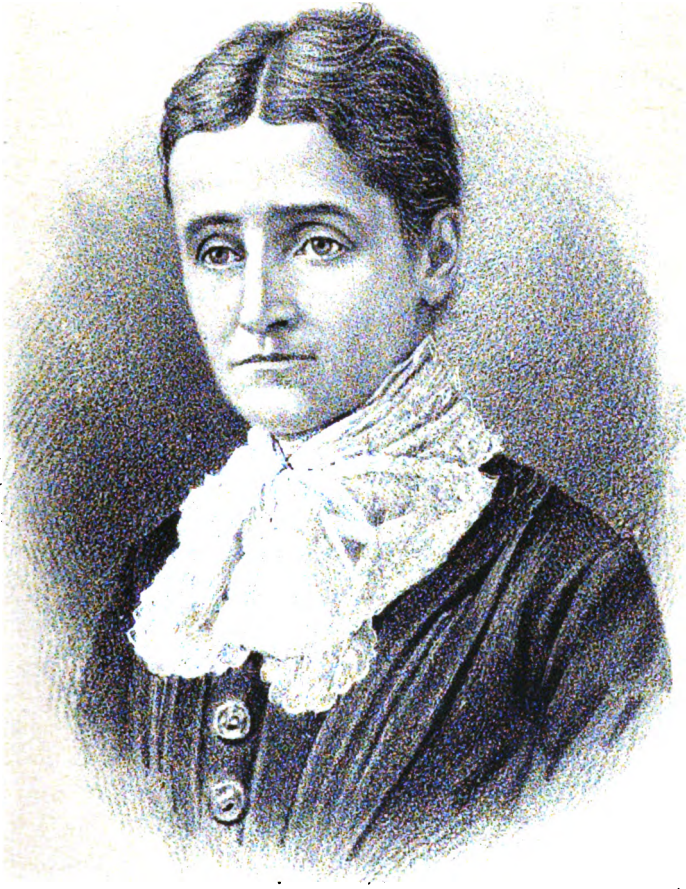
*P. P. Cole*, farmer; P. O., Charles City; son of Raphael and Aurelia (Lewis) Cole, natives of Vermont. They moved to Pennsylvania, where they lived some time, and in 1846 came to Wisconsin, and bought a farm, where they lived until 1876, when they came to Iowa, and located in Cedar Township; they now live in Charles City. P. P. was born in Pennsylvania, July 21, 1836, where he lived until ten years of age, then with his parents came to Wisconsin, where he was educated. He has always followed a farm life, and in 1874 came to Iowa, and bought his present farm of 145 acres, on sections 2 and 35, Cedar Township, which is finely cultivated. In 1867 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Harriet (Golden) Darby, natives of England. At an early date they moved to the United States, locating in New York, and soon removed to Illinois, where Mrs. Darby died and his wife still lives. Mrs. Cole was born in New York State, July 11, 1844. By the above union there are four children, three living—Addison Jay, born Aug. 19, 1870; Bertha Mertilla, born Dec. 23, 1872; Jessie Lillian and Austin Everett, twins (Austin is deceased), born Aug. 26, 1876. Mr. Cole votes the Republican ticket. In 1862 he enlisted in the Ninety-sixth Illinois Infantry Volunteers, and served three years, being in many of the hard-fought battles of the war: Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Franklin, Resaca, Nashville and numerous others; he was discharged June 29, 1865, at Chicago. He is Secretary of Floyd County Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company; has been Township Clerk two terms, and Assessor two years; is at present Assessor of the township.

*Samuel F. Ferguson*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; was born in New York, July 7, 1829, where he was educated; he is the son of James and Susanna (Smith) Ferguson, natives of New York. Mr.

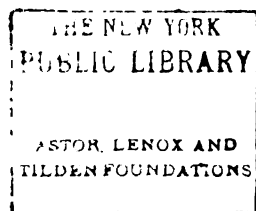




*J. M. Smith*



*S. W. W. Smith*



Ferguson died in New York. They had a family of three children, Samuel being the oldest. In 1864 he came to Wisconsin, living there one year, then came to Iowa and bought his present farm of 240 acres on section 28; he now owns 620 acres of land. He has made farming a success; is well situated on an excellent farm and is giving some attention to fine stock. In 1867 he married Nancy Ann, daughter of John and Florilla (Walls) McKinney, natives of Ireland; they now live in New York, where Mrs. Ferguson was born, May 25, 1840. This union has been blessed with four children—James Alexander, born May 13, 1860; Charlotte, born Sept. 24, 1862, died May 12, 1879; Flora, May 8, 1869; John Milford, Sept. 29, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which denomination he is a Local Deacon. He has held several township offices, the duties of which he has faithfully discharged. He votes the Republican ticket, and is one of the energetic, enterprising and respected men of Floyd County.

*Lucien M. Foster*, mason, minister and farmer; postoffice, Orchard; son of Samuel and Lois (Miller) Foster. They were of New England nativity, and had a family of five children, of which Lucien is the youngest. He was born in Washington County, N. Y., and was educated there and learned the trade of a mason, which business he followed several years, and then studied for the ministry and began preaching in 1831 for the Congregational denomination. He moved to Lake County, Ill., and lived two years. In 1855 he moved to Iowa and united with the Wesleyan Methodist church, and has preached for them much of the time till now. On coming to Iowa he pre-empted a homestead, being the first settler on Plum Prairie. His experiences with his friends, the red men, would fill a good-sized volume, but by uniform kindness, never had any trouble with them. In 1834 he married Sarah Maria Stockwell, a native of Vermont. This union was blessed with five children, two living—Royal A., born Aug. 9, 1838, married; Carmi J., born Nov. 14, 1857, married and living in Floyd County; Samuel A., died in the army; the others died in childhood. Royal A. lives on section 22, where he owns 175 acres of fine land, under good cultivation. In 1864 he married Sylvia Bennett. She was born in Lake County, Ill., March 30, 1843. By their union there is one child—Jerome Ashley, born Feb. 4, 1870. They are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church, and he votes the Republican ticket, as does his father, who has held several of the township offices, and has faithfully dis-

charged the duties of each. They are respected highly by their friends. Mrs. Lucien Foster died on Oct. 14, 1876; it was occasioned by a fall and the breaking of her right hip. Rev. Foster owns 135 acres of land on section 22.

*John Henry*, farmer and carpenter; postoffice, Stillwater; son of John and Jane (Orr) Henry, of Scottish descent. Our subject was born in Ireland, County Caven. When eighteen years of age he came to New York State, where he commenced the carpenter's trade; from there he went to Philadelphia, and thence to Liverpool and London, and continued to work at his trade in all these places. He returned to the United States in 1858, and again lived some six years in Philadelphia, and five years in Chicago. In 1870 he purchased his farm of 240 acres on section 20, Cedar Township, Ia., where he has since lived. In 1858 he married Mary, daughter of James and Mary (Holland) McKitterick, natives of Ireland, where they died. This union has been blessed with six children, five living—John, born March 11, 1860; Margaret, March 27, 1861; Julia Ann, Dec. 29, 1863 (all born in Philadelphia); Mary, born in Chicago, May 14, 1867; William Henry, born Oct. 17, 1868, in Lakeview, Ill. Mrs. Henry is a member of the M. E. church. Mr. Henry is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and I. O. O. F. lodges. He has held several of the township offices, and faithfully discharged the duties of each. He votes the Republican ticket.

*James Haughey*, farmer; postoffice, Floyd; son of John and Julia Ann (Young) Hanghey, natives of Delaware. They moved to Illinois at an early day and died there. They were the parents of twelve children. James was the fifth child and was born in Ohio, Nov. 14, 1811, where he was educated; he learned the trade of a carpenter and worked at it several years; is also a cabinet-maker. On Aug. 13, 1837, he married Mary, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Coon) Stout, natives of Pennsylvania; she was born in Ohio, Dec. 4, 1817. By this union there are eight children, five living—Sylvanus, born June 6, 1840, and died in 1870; he served through the war of the Rebellion, and contracted the disease of which he died; Francis, April, 1842, married; Mary Hartford, Aug. 18, 1845, wife of George Bleckly; Julia Ann, June 18, 1847, wife of Frank Pelton; Martha Jane, June 25, 1849, wife of Adam Fehr; Sophia Ellen, deceased; Harriet Hydassa, Nov. 14, 1853; James Buchanan, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Haughey came to Iowa in 1854. He owns 300 acres of fine land on section 28, Cedar Township, mostly im-

proved. Mr. and Mrs. Haughey are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Haughey has held several township offices and votes the Republican ticket.

*W. B. Howard*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; son of Elbert and Phoebe (McNeil) Howard, natives of Kentucky. W. B. was born in Kentucky in 1815; was educated in Indiana, and came to Illinois in 1834 and to Iowa in 1854; he owns eighty acres of land on section 25, where he now lives. In 1840 he married Lucetta Hinsdell, a native of New York. This union was blessed with six children—Sarah Elizabeth, deceased; Fidelia J., deceased; Sanders M., married and living in Emmet County, Ia.; Nora J., wife of John A. Wright, of Mitchell County, Ia.; Phoebe A., wife of Almon D. Couse, of Orchard, Ia.; Antoinette, died in infancy. Mrs. Howard soon followed. In 1860 Mr. Howard married Melissa Ann Southard, a native of Massachusetts. Has been County Supervisor three terms. Mr. Howard has held most of the township offices, and has faithfully discharged the duties of them all. He votes the Republican ticket.

*Williard Lanphere*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; son of Russell and Lydia (Miner) Lanphere, natives of Connecticut, where they died. Williard was born Feb. 25, 1820, in Connecticut, where he was educated. He is one of a family of fourteen, and is the tenth child. He went to New York in 1836, remaining about seven years; thence to Ohio for a short time; thence to Wisconsin, and then to Iowa in 1852, and to Floyd County in 1856, where he entered land; he has now a farm of forty acres on section 24, Cedar Township. In 1848 he married Mary, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Sawyer) Hoisington, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts respectively. By this union there have been eight children, four living—Carrie (wife of Everton Canfield), Franklin, Phineas and Olive. Mr. and Mrs. Lanphere are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. He votes the Democratic ticket.

*Isaac Naden*, farmer; postoffice, Orchard, Mitchell County; son of Samuel and Martha (Milner) Naden. They were natives of England, and moved to the United States, and located in Illinois in 1845, where they both died. Isaac was born in England, Sept. 9, 1824, where he was educated; he came to the United States with his parents, and in 1855 he came to Iowa, and entered his lands where he now lives. He has 320 acres of as fine land as can be found; it is on section 21, Cedar Township, and sections 16 and 15, Lincoln Township, Mitchell County. Mr. Naden has the best improved



land in the township, and is thorough-going in whatever he undertakes. In 1845 he married Elizabeth, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Butterworth) Turner, natives of England, where they died. By this union there have been four children—J. W., born 1846, married and keeping store in Orchard; Noah S., born 1848, married, and lives in Orchard; Mary A., born in 1851, wife of R. F. Hill, of Chicago; and W. H., born 1855. Mr. Naden and family are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Naden has held many of the township offices, but of late refuses to accept any. He votes the Republican ticket.

*George F. Nash*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City. He was born in New York, Dec. 17, 1850, and at an early age moved to Illinois, where he was educated. His father was Jeremiah, and his mother Olive (Oaks) Nash, natives of New York; they now reside in Illinois. In 1871 he married Genella G., daughter of Daniel and Eliza (Getman) Stowell, natives of New York. Mrs. Stowell died in 1868, in Illinois, where the family had moved. By the above union there are four children, three living—Edith, born Nov. 11, 1874; Ralph Clinton, Dec. 16, 1877; Frank George, Dec. 2, 1879. Mr. Nash and wife are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Nash owns 275 acres of fine prairie land on section 35. He has held several township offices, and votes the Republican ticket.

*Addis Schermerhorn*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; son of William and Harriet (Lottridge) Schermerhorn, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., March 5, 1843. Mr. and Mrs. William Schermerhorn were both natives of New York, and were the parents of five children, four living—Perry, Addis, Marvin, living in Minnesota, and William W., living with his parents in Cedar Township. Addis was educated principally in Iowa, attending the first school ever held in the township, at the house of W. B. Howard. He has followed farming for a livelihood, and now owns seventy-two acres of finely-improved land, on section 35, Cedar Township. He married, in 1860, Samantha, daughter of J. and Susan (Jacobs) Aldrich, natives of Rhode Island. Her mother died in Iowa, in 1857; her father is still living in Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Schermerhorn have four children—Geneva, born Jan. 4, 1862; Cora, June 1, 1864; Charles Wesley, April 11, 1873; Ida, Dec. 12, 1876. They are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Mr. Schermerhorn votes the Republican ticket.

*Charles H. Towner*, farmer; P. O., Charles City. His father was James S. and his mother Eveline (Barney) Towner, natives of Vermont. The father came to Illinois at an early day, where he died; the mother still lives there. Charles was born in Vermont, Nov. 4, 1834, where he was educated. He worked at farming, and came to Illinois in 1848, where he lived until 1856, when he moved to Iowa and bought a farm. He now owns 285 acres of excellent land on section 36, where he now lives, and has under a high state of cultivation. In 1856 he married Louisa Bennett, who was born March 22, 1839, in Illinois, a daughter of Stephen and Betsey (Knickerbacker) Bennett, natives of Dutchess Co., N. Y. They moved to Illinois in 1837, where Stephen died, and in 1855 Mrs. Bennett and family came to Iowa, where she still lives with her children. By the above union there are six children—George, born April 27, 1859, married; Owen C., April 16, 1862; Oscar J., Sept. 16, 1865; Royal C., July 27, 1868; Mary E., Aug. 29, 1875; Ralph S., Dec. 17, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Towner are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. He votes the Republican ticket.

*William B. Towner*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; son of James S. and Eveline (Barney) Towner, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont respectively, who were the parents of six children—William B., Charles H., Mary E., Carlos C., F. B. and Eveline. Three live in Iowa, two in Illinois, one in Michigan; all born in Vermont. William B. was born in Castleton, Rutland County, Vt., Dec. 25, 1831, where he was educated. In 1864 he came to Floyd County, Ia. He now owns 203 acres of fine land on sections 35 and 36, mostly well improved. In 1856 he married Harriet A., daughter of Edward and Harriet (Golden) Darby, of England. They came to the United States many years ago, and Edward died in Illinois, where his wife still lives. By the above union there are five children—Adrin J., Ella M., Cora M., Edward J. and Frederick H. Mr. and Mrs. Towner are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Mr. Towner votes the Republican ticket, and has held several township offices; is Secretary of the School Board and Justice of the Peace; has held each of these offices some ten years, and was County Supervisor four terms.

*Chester M. Townsend*, farmer and stock-raiser; postoffice, Charles City; son of John C. and Lucinda (Underwood) Townsend. The subject of this sketch was born in the State of New York, Dec. 6, 1837. He was educated in Iowa and has followed farming. He owns 535 acres of land on sections 1, 30 and 31, Cedar

Township. He also owns 320 acres in Dakota. In 1866 he married Harriet, daughter of John and Mary A. (Park) Hill, natives of New York and Massachusetts respectively, both deceased. By this union there are three children—Schuyler C., born July 10, 1868; Rollin M., Aug. 26, 1870; Gertie V., Sept. 2, 1877. In 1861 Mr. Townsend enlisted in the Third Iowa Infantry, Company I, Captain M. M. Trumbell, and served three years in that regiment, and in February thereafter re-enlisted in the Second U. S. Veterans, General Hancock's Corps, Company H, and served one year. While in service he was engaged in many of the hard-fought battles: that of Pittsburg Landing and Hatchie River, where he was wounded in the abdomen by a canister ball striking on the U. S. belt plate; siege of Vicksburg and Jackson, Miss., where he was taken prisoner and sent to Libby Prison, Richmond, and to Belle Isle. He was discharged at the expiration of the three years' service, at Davenport, Ia., and in Washington, D. C., at the expiration of the one year's enlistment. He votes the Republican ticket.

*John C. Townsend*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; was born in the State of New York, Sept. 18, 1813, where he was educated. His father was Chester, and mother Delight (Wilber) Townsend, natives of Massachusetts and Rhode Island respectively. They moved to New York in 1801, and lived there until 1839, when they came to Gratiot County, Mich., where they died. John C. has followed farming, and in 1854 came to Iowa and took up his present farm of 160 acres on section 36, where he has lived ever since. He owns 163 acres adjoining. In 1835 he married Lucinda, daughter of Chester and Theda (Trask) Underwood, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut respectively. They are both deceased, Mr. Underwood dying in Genesee County, N. Y., and Mrs. Underwood, after again marrying, in Walworth County, Wis. Lucinda was born in Massachusetts, Dec. 12, 1813. This union has been blessed with four children, three living—Chester M., born in New York, Dec. 6, 1837, married and living near his parents; Livonia J., wife of Lorenzo J. Dawley, of Minneapolis, born June 17, 1840; Jerome W., married, living in Kansas, born Aug. 17, 1844; Viola H., born January, 1852, died Aug. 7, 1858. Mr. Townsend is a Spiritualist. He has held many of the township offices; has been County Supervisor, and has faithfully discharged all the duties. He votes the Greenback ticket.

## FLOYD TOWNSHIP.

### ORGANIC.

For a large portion of the following history we are indebted to Hervey Wilbur, Esq., of Floyd.

The township of Floyd was one of the original four townships carved out of the entire territory of Floyd County, Sept. 4, 1854, by John M. Hunt, County Judge. It then comprised the Congressional townships 96 and 97, in range 15; 96 and 97, in range 16; and the east half of 96 and 97, in range 17. The boundary lines of Floyd Township as now defined are more irregular than those of any other township in the county. Mitchell County and Cedar Township in Floyd County lie on the north; Cedar, Niles and St. Charles townships on the East; St. Charles and Ulster townships on the south, and Ulster and Rudd townships on the west. It contains forty-three sections of land, of which about three and a half sections are heavy timber.

March 5, 1855, sections 25 and 36, and the south half of section 26, and all of section 35 in township 96 north, of range 16, and a strip ten miles wide from the south side of township 96, range 15, were detached from Floyd and attached to St. Charles Township; D. Wiltse, acting County Judge.

March 3, 1856, the south half of section 3, township 97, range 15, and the four north tiers of sections in township 96, range 15, and sections 21 to 28 inclusive, and sections 34, 35 and 36, in township 97, range 16, and sections 1, 12 and 13 of township 96, range 16, were detached from Floyd and formed into a township called Cedar; A. L. Collins, County Judge.

March 25, 1856, the north half of sections 24 and 26, township 96, range 16, was detached from Floyd and attached to St. Charles Township; A. L. Collins, County Judge.

At the June session of 1862, of the Board of Supervisors, the west half of section 18, township 96, range 15, was detached from Floyd and attached to Niles Township; Chester Butterfield, County Judge.

## THE FIRST WHITE SETTLERS.

The first white settlers in Floyd Township were John Clark and ——— Sherman who came as trappers and adventurers in 1851, the former settling on section 8, and the latter on section 9. Each broke and planted this summer season two acres of ground. C. P. Burroughs and H. M. Brown came into Floyd Township in 1852. Burroughs bought Sherman's choice claim, while H. M. Brown, with a few dollars induced Clark to leave what has since been converted into a valuable home, and go further west to surprise the mink and some other locality with less civilization. Jefferson C. Muchler, Oliver Hubbard, Samuel Nims, Moses Chapman and Smith Hyler also come as settlers this year.

Two children were born this year—one to John Clark and wife, and one to Charles Twite and wife, but which was first, the old ladies cannot say. George Patterson, a young man boarding with Mrs. Nims, died in October, 1852.

In 1853 came David Bates, N. A. Rice, Wm. Carl, Wm. Montgomery, Marvin S. and Edward Heath, John W. and L. G. Burroughs. At this time a little settlement had commenced in the north part of the township. Cutler's water saw-mill on Rock Creek was built this year, and Coleman Bumgartner and others had settled in that vicinity; this settlement was called Watertown. Just opposite, on the east side of the Cedar, Wm. Gilman opened the first store in what was then Floyd Township. In this year was organized the Methodist Episcopal society, Rev. Schamp, by name, pastor. The first meeting was held at the home of H. M. Brown.

In 1854 came M. G. Cook, J. B. Dawley, Peter Schamp, Philip Shorkey, Henry Ingram, H. M. Nye, E. H. Morrison, Hiram Smith, Moses Conger, John Richardson, B. B. Van Steenburg, and a few others.

The Tatums, H. Hogan, J. H. Story, and Silas Smith were early settlers. In this year occurred the famous Indian'scare of Floyd County.

In 1855 some prominent men came: James Griffith, the Sprague brothers, Chester Butterfield, Andrew Rice, and others. This year James Griffith finished and set going the first water saw and grist mill in the township; the grist-mill had two run of stone. Andrew Sample had previously begun the work. Thomas Sprague opened the first store and postoffice this year—was the first Postmaster and William was his deputy. The building he opened in was pur-

chased in St. Charles, torn down and moved to Floyd; it was composed of poplar logs. Andrew Rice set in motion, this year, a steam saw-mill, raising his smoke stack on Christmas day, amid great rejoicing. The Village of Floyd was laid out this year by James Griffith and Henry C. Tatum. Gilmantown was also laid out this year.

#### FIRST EVENTS.

April 2, 1855, the first election was held in the township. E. H. Morrison, was elected Clerk; William Gilman, J. P.; Humphrey Hogan, Assessor, and H. M. Brown, J. W. Burroughs and Samuel W. Nims, Trustees. The first County Convention was held this year at John Ball's in what is now Ulster Township. C. P. Burroughs was nominated as School Fund Commissioner, and William Montgomery, Sheriff. They were elected. Floyd had no political dictator. The first marriage license in the township was granted to Marvin S. Heath and Lucy A. Smith, daughter of Hiram Smith, Sen.

In the summer of 1856 B. B. Van Steenburg built a house on his land just north of town; he, George Lorillard and Frank Nosser kept bachelor's hall until the fall of the same year. The house was then moved to Carl's addition, and used as a boarding house for mill hands. The steam mill was moved on to the addition in the fall and commenced work about Dec. 15. The name of the firm was B. F. Nosser & Co. The first school was opened this year. The house was built by N. A. Rice, Moses Conger, C. P. Burroughs and H. M. Brown. The teacher's name was Phylinda Burroughs. The scholars' names were Minerva Brown, Malinda Brown, Louisa Conger, and Sarah Fisher, an adopted daughter of N. A. Rice. This was known for years as the "little white school-house." It stood near the present stone school-house in District No. 3.

In 1856 E. H. Morrison was elected Clerk; Thomas Sprague, Wm. Carl and Lorey Franklin, Trustees; Silas Smith, Assessor; Humphrey Logan, Justice of the Peace. Moses Conger was appointed Justice of the Peace, to fill vacancy by resignation of Wm. Gillman.

In 1856 Wm. Carl laid out his addition to Floyd Village, on the west of the original plat. In 1857 Griffith and Chittenden laid out an addition. In 1858 Wm. Montgomery laid out his addition on the south of the original plat. These additions and the

original plat covered about 250 acres of land. At this time anticipations ran high and it was hoped to make this a county seat, and with her splendid water-power it was thought much manufacturing would locate here. For a time the town grew faster than the country, and the sound of the hammer was heard from "early morn to dewy eve," and lots sold at "fine" figures. But disappointment was in store for the Floydites. A prospective new mill and partly finished bridge were swept away by a severe freshet, and the county seat was in 1859, decided lost, and town lots declined. But at the time of building the McGregor & Sioux City R. R., and the Cedar Falls & Minnesota R. R., property again revived and up went our present mill, school-houses and church edifices. But alas, the roads missed us, and confidence in town lots gave way, and their owners commenced to vacate them, reverting them back to farm lands; the present town of lots covers only about eighty acres. But, though thus reduced, Floyd has quite an extensive trade, and is one of the six railroad towns in the county, and is a very pleasant little town to live in.

#### SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, ETC.

The schools of the township have increased in importance and we now have eight, with a corresponding number of good school-houses, and large enrollment of scholars. An independent school district was organized March 22, 1862, and in 1867, it was voted to build a school-house; a block of land was purchased and O. Haven contracted with to build. The total cost, as now completed, \$10,000. House accepted in 1868. First school was taught in 1870. The house is conspicuous from all points. Its belfry is quite a good observatory. From it the cars can be seen entering into both Floyd and Charles City. The country surrounding Floyd at a great distance looks like an exquisitely drawn map.

[We have been unable to obtain statistics.]

Resident physicians: Dr. L. Birney, settled in 1856; Dr. Ellis, also Dr. J. D. McKenzie, in 1874; Drs. Hammond, Brown and McEwen, were here temporarily.

The Methodist Episcopal society was organized in 1857, I. D. Rust in charge. The church edifice was erected in 1862, and dedicated Jan. 19, 1863. The Christians were organized in 1861, Peter Deyo, preacher. In 1870, the Presbyterian church organized and built a house of worship. Marvin Jones was the pastor.

The Ladies Union League was organized in 1866, Mrs. I. M. Merri-man, President—about 100 members. The same year the gentlemen organized a Union League, Otis Haven, President—with about 100 members. Patrons of Husbandry organized in 1873, D. C. Sutton, Master. There have been organized four lodges of Good Templars. The ladies first union sewing society organized in 1857; second sewing society of the M. E. church was organized in 1858 and has been perpetual. It has earned and disbursed more than \$1,000; it has mostly been expended about the church and parsonage. The sewing society of the Presbyterian church was organized by the ladies in 1870. The Ladies' Union Temperance League was organized in 1874, as was also the Foreign Missionary Society.

#### MILITARY.

In 1861 Floyd furnished the first volunteers for the war of the Rebellion—Norman Wolcott, N. R. Rider, Wm. Tottlar, Henry King, James Baker, P. W. Snyder, and A. N. Dickey. These seven young men were drawn up in line just before leaving Floyd, and the citizens passed them, taking each by the hand, and bidding him good-by. The act was simple but solemn. Our country was in danger; and here were her defenders. These volunteers were escorted to St. Charles by nearly the whole town of Floyd, drums beating, fifes playing, and flags flying. Just before arriving at St. Charles we were met by a very large concourse of citizens from that town. It was just after dark, and the flags could scarcely be seen, enough however, so we knew "our comrades were there." Here our seven volunteers were joined by seven from St. Charles, and after marching in procession a little we were escorted into Gilbert's Hall. This hall was never more densely packed. If martial music were ever played, the drum and fife made music now. After order was somewhat restored, H. Wilbur, of Floyd, was made chairman of the joint meeting. Kate Wright gave an address of welcome to the Floyd people, after which numerous speakers were called out. There were no Whigs or Democrats at this meeting. All were Union men, and Union women. Here commenced the breaking up of two great political parties. A new issue presented itself, such as these United States had never seen before. It was union or disunion, and every man arrayed himself on the side of his choice. It was the spirit of this night that saved the country. These joined the Third Iowa at Cedar Falls, and were never accredited either to St. Charles or Floyd. W. P. Gaylord



and H. Wilbur were appointed a committee to get these several volunteers accredited to their own towns, but in consequence of red tape this deserved result was never obtained.

During these years Floyd was quite a military camp. A company of infantry, with James Griffith as Captain, was formed and drilled on our streets. Cavalry men appeared riding and maneuvering, and much talk was made in reference to forming a company for this branch of the service. The drum and fife were heard almost every evening, and meetings for the purpose of raising volunteers were frequent. At these meetings, the speakers were generally enthusiastic, and met with good results. Floyd sent out over sixty soldiers; was credited by the authorities with only about thirty-five. In consequence of this, a draft came, calling for two men from Floyd. Rev. Preston, of the Christian church, and Rev. Wm. Smith, of the M. E. church were the drafted men—a remarkable providence, the solution of which is: the devil overruled the drawing, but God overruled the devil by procuring substitutes for the drafted ministers. In 1863 the ladies sent off two large boxes of sanitary stores for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers. In 1864, at a school exhibition held in the M. E. church, H. Wilbur, teacher, over \$40 in cash was raised and sent for the same purpose. Relief was also liberally given to the Chicago and grasshopper sufferers.

#### GENERAL HISTORY.

From a few acres only, tilled in 1855, with the rudest implements, the people can now feed thousands with our surplus products. Instead of the old-fashioned single or double shoveled plow, we now ride through our corn-fields on our two-horse sulkies. Instead of the square or a drag with twenty-four teeth, we now sweep over the ground with our Scotch harrows of forty-two teeth, or still more improved harrows of seventy-two teeth. Instead of hand-sowing our grain, we now drill, or sow broadcast with our seeders. Instead of the hoe for planting, we use the hand or horse planter, planting from five to twenty acres per day of corn. Instead of McCormick or other old reapers without rakes, we now proudly ride along on our Little Champions or other self-rakers, followed by a quarter score of binders; or, prouder still, we mount our harvesters, taking our two binders with us, working in the shade. Or, another step in advance, goes the man with his team, reaping and binding alone, while others, with their headers, cut and

stack their grain the same day. We now ride leisurely along on our mowers, cracking our whips at the dandelion heads, followed by the stripping of the West, perched on his horse rake.

Previous to 1857 there was no resting place for the dead, and a temporary organization of the people was formed, and the following Board of Trustees was elected: I. D. Rust, James Griffith, Chester Butterfield, H. M. Nye and G. N. Miner, who were to select a place for, and cause to be laid out, suitable grounds for a cemetery. These trustees selected a part of the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 22, township 96, range 16, being four acres and sixty-nine and three-fourths square feet of ground.

This ground they purchased by note of H. M. Nye, expecting to pay said notes by funds to be raised by sale of lots. Said ground was laid out into lots by J. G. Shoemaker, surveyor, and lots were sold at public auction, when only enough was raised to pay the cost of surveying, and nothing was left to pay on the note. But few deaths occurring, and no one seeming to have money to purchase lots in advance of death, the payment of the note and interest was delayed until the holder thereof became anxious for his pay. Thus matters continued until 1862, when Chester Butterfield, L. G. Burroughs, J. W. Burroughs, Jacob Whitbeck, Wm. Montgomery, Wilder Butterfield, S. A. Quinby, Silas Smith, H. M. Nye, Joseph Monson, L. K. Lee and H. Wilbur assumed the contract, paid the debt, and became sole proprietors of all unsold lots. L. G. Burroughs was the first President; H. Wilbur, Secretary. This company caused a plat of the ground to be recorded, and sales are now made by lots, the company giving deeds therefor. That Floyd is not exempt from death, is evidenced by the number of monuments and mounds raised there to mark the sleeping place of dear ones departed. All these mounds and monuments have been raised during and since 1857. That death is no respecter of persons, age or sect, is apparent from the great variety in size of these sleeping abodes, and of the names and ages of their respective occupants. Comparing the living with the dead, Floyd is at least as healthy as any of her surrounding townships. In proportion to present population, I venture to say more old settlers remain in Floyd than in any other township in the county.

By a vote to move the court-house site from St. Charles to the geographical center, taken April 5, 1858, there were, for removing, 453 votes; against removing, 434 votes; giving nineteen majority

or removal. Judge Ripley was County Judge, and Silas Smith was both Treasurer and Recorder. Soon after this vote, Judge Ripley ordered the county records to be moved to Floyd. As there were no buildings at this time at the center, it became proper for the county judge to designate a place for a temporary court-house. Floyd was so designated and a portion of the records moved here and recording done. But, before our people became fledglings, an injunction was served on the county judge, not to remove any more books to Floyd, and commanding him to return those already there. The injunction was quashed, but by some "hook or crook," the matter was carried to the Supreme Court, and decided against the removal of the site in 1859.

Thus was the "cup of joy" forever dashed from the lips of Floyd Township. Could the people of St. Charles blame the people of Floyd for feeling very, very sore over this? As an immediate course of rejoicing, and before the controversy was ended, a Fourth of July celebration at the geographical center was determined on by those friendly to the removal. Those opposed celebrated at St. Charles. Before the vote was taken to remove, a sharp controversy had been carried on through the newspapers, by W. P. Gaylord in favor, and some St. Charles man against it, the St. Charles man alleging the soil to be so poor and wet at the center, that nothing but turnips could be raised there. Nevertheless, preparations for the celebration at the center went on enthusiastically. The center of the county was mathematically determined, and a nice liberty pole was visible from a spot in the Rudd road, west of Floyd, for quite a number of years, or until the farmer routed it to make room for his breaking plow. The 4th of July, 1858, came, and the people of Floyd were ready for the occasion. Silas Smith and J. P. Webster acted as marshals for Floyd. Two lumber wagons coupled together as one, with seats all around facing inward, with graceful boughs intertwined, made a most luxurious palace for its inmates. To this grand car were attached ten yoke of oxen guided by drivers who knew how to run a twenty-four or thirty-inch breaking plow. Next to this was one double wagon seated and furnished with trimmings the same as the first, and to which was attached five yoke of oxen guided by equally efficient drivers. Next this, horses and footmen, horses and carriages completing the procession. To a greenhorn the scene was really exciting. The crack, crack of the whip; the gee, haw, come along Bright, Buck and Berry, Duke and Dime, were really amusing as well as exciting.

Not far out from Floyd a rattle-snake was caught, and Jack Croft took it by the nape of the neck with one hand and by the tail with the other, and passed it between his teeth, chonking it as it passed through. Next, a stripped gopher was caught and thrown into the large wagon alive, just to amuse the ladies. Arriving at the Big Slough—it showed its correct name, and ladies and gentlemen had to come down to terra firma and pass over the slough on a temporary brush and limb bridge. There was not a fence or a house between Floyd and the center. It looked like going out to sea in a great meadow. Arriving at the center we were lustily cheered by West-siders who had already arrived. We marched a few times around the pole, until the whole ox-cavalcade was formed in procession, and then we wended our way to the grove near Sprague's, where arrangements had been made for speaking. Judge Ball read the Declaration of Independence, and W. P. Gaylord was orator. I. D. Rust, of Floyd, was chaplain, and Smith and Webster, marshals of the day.

After the vote, moving the county seat to the geographical center, it became a matter of political importance who should be the next county judge. In 1859 the Republicans nominated Judge Ripley, and the Democrats nominated David Wiltse, of St. Charles, who pledged himself as being opposed to St. Charles being the county-seat, that if elected he would put a roof on the stone structure already reared to preserve it, and wait further developments before completing it. This bait the Democrats swallowed as a party, hoping thereby to elect their ticket. The Republicans in favor of St. Charles also swallowed it, and with perhaps another secretly tendered promise in regard to finishing up the Court House, and they voted almost solidly for Wiltse, who was elected; and contrary to his pledge, contracted for the completion of the court-house. This act was the occasion of a raid upon the court-house. The people feeling indignant, many informal indignation meetings were held, and by concert, many of the disaffected people determined to visit St. Charles, and there give vent to their pent-up feelings. Floyd Township, though not unanimous in this move, acted voluntarily with a majority of her voters in this matter. The citizens met in the then would-be court house, and appointed a committee to wait on Judge Wiltse and invite him to come over and explain his conduct. He was sick and could not

come. This seemed to be the culmination of the entire county-seat business.

The vote to raise a tax of five cents on the dollar to assist in building the Cedar Falls & Minnesota Railroad, was taken and carried Oct. 29, 1868, and the cars reached the Floyd depot on that road in the fall of 1869. Of this road 5 35-100 miles lie in this township, and 4 25-100 of the McGregor & Sioux City Road. On this last road the cars also ran to Floyd Crossing in 1869. Previous to this our commerce was carried by wagons across the Wapsie to McGregor or down the Cedar to Dubuque. Thomas Sprague's four-mule team carried everybody between these two points. No bridges, no roads anywhere. It is doubtful if even a minister could pass over either of these roads without thinking of the bad. We had no home markets except to settlers coming in. How we lived in those olden times is a mystery. Prices low, roads bad, no market. In the summer of 1858 no grain or flour could be bought nearer than Clermont Mills, down toward McGregor. Musty corn was worth \$1.00 per bushel in Charles City. Now, how changed! Market for everything and at each man's door. The people of Floyd can now reach the following depots, going and returning in one day: Osage, Orchard, Floyd, Charles City, Nashua, Marble Rock, Rockford, Nora Springs and Rudd. Instead of oak and basswood for lumber for building material, as in former days, we have pine brought to every depot, and sold at reasonable rates. The old steam and water saw-mills have ceased their depredations on our forests, and the old-worn fence is giving place to boards and wire. Instead of the log cabins or mere huts, and the down stables, new houses are being erected of stone, brick or pine, and barns of formidable dimensions are being erected of the same materials. Instead of bee-lining across the township and wading through sloughs, the traveler finds well-worked roads, carefully located for the convenience of the inhabitants, and instead of fording our streams, we pass them over good, substantial bridges.

Two heavy freshets have visited Floyd, one of which caused the water of the Cedar to rise over thirty feet; this occurred in 1858. Other freshets have occurred since, but of less magnitude. Every bridge was swept away by this one.

This year also occurred a very destructive storm of wind, rain and thunder and lightning—at night. The morning showed the effects of the damage to be great, though no lives were lost. Houses were moved from their underpinning, school houses and

private houses unroofed, fences prostrated, and a general time of discomfort felt. Add to this poor crops this year, and you may guess our situation.

The big spring, a little way below the Floyd Mill on the east side of the river, is a natural curiosity. Quite a large stream of water abruptly bursts forth from under a high embankment. This water is impregnated with some kind of mineral, and should some enterprising Yankee become its owner, he would undoubtedly make it historical as a summer resort. Still further up from the same mill and on the same side of the river on B. B. Van Steenburg's flat is another beautiful spring. This spring is almost in the center of a small rivulet which flows into the Cedar, and is constantly boiling up like a huge cauldron of heated syrup. The water however is clear as crystal and pleasant to the taste. This spring is already somewhat notorious as the resort of pleasure parties. Being close to the river and in the timber, boating, swinging, eating and gossiping can all be done in due order. Another phenomenon in this township is the finding of animal and vegetable remains many feet below the surface of the ground when digging wells. Moses Conger, Esq., when digging for water on the premises now owned and occupied by Neil Oleson Seim Esq., found at the distance of about twenty feet below the surface a stick of timber about six inches in diameter and reaching clear across the excavation. It was so nearly petrified that the kind of wood could not be ascertained. James Burnham, in digging a well on the Clark farm, near Floyd village, found vegetable remains, such as limbs of trees several feet below the surface. James Raymond, Sr., living about four miles northwest from the village, found large quantities of petrified matter, while digging a well. One piece had the appearance of a black walnut, another had the form of a quill, another appeared to be a large sized turtle; there were also many pieces of petrified wood. Query, whence and how came they here?

#### A FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.

As W. E. Brill was crossing the I. C. R. R. about half a mile south of the depot, on the morning of Friday, Feb. 13, 1874, he was struck by a passing train, the approach of which he was not aware of, owing to the sudden bend in the road, and to the fact that it was two hours past the time for the train to be due. The horses had just crossed the track, and the engine struck the sled

about the middle, literally smashing it to fragments, and precipitating its occupant to a distance of seventy-five or a hundred feet. Mr. Brill was seriously injured. The train was stopped and the unfortunate man taken up in an unconscious condition and carried to the depot.

#### CASUALTIES.

April 27, 1858, John Wyman was upset in a skiff and drowned in the Cedar under the dam a short distance below Floyd.

In April, 1879, on the premises of J. W. Webster, a colt was born which seemed to be perfect in all respects except that it had no fore-legs or shoulders, and no sign of any. It did not live and the carcass was taken to W. A. Fairbanks, a taxidermist of Charles City, to be skinned and mounted. The task was neatly done, and this singular freak of nature was thus preserved as a wonder to all observers of biological phenomena.

May 28, 1858, at Floyd, three men were drowned in the Cedar River. They were engaged in the stone quarry at that place, had finished work for the day, and were crossing the river in a skiff, to their boarding place, accompanied by Mr. Griffith. When near the middle of the stream the strong current, with the wind, upset the skiff, and Mr. Griffith alone escaped drowning. The name of one was John Carroll.

Aug. 13, 1858, Mr. Cottrell, a stranger from New York, was drowned near Floyd. His boat struck a bridge pier and threw him out.

July 30, 1858, at Floyd, a terrible tornado and thunder-storm occurred, demolishing half a dozen buildings. Mr. Welch's family suffered considerable injury. About forty acres of timber was blown down, and fields of corn, oats and wheat were prostrated, and almost entirely ruined.

In June, 1861, Mrs. Alice O. Haley, of Floyd, in a freak of insanity attempted to chop off her husband's head with an ax while he was sleeping on a lounge. She missed his throat and hit his skull a blow, which in a few days proved fatal. She was taken to the insane asylum at Mount Pleasant, from there to Wisconsin, and died with her friends.

In 1865 Mr. Henry Webster had a little girl burned to death. Both parents were from home, and the fire caught in the little one's clothes.

On the 3d day of March, 1865, Patrick Burns was killed in Floyd Township by a falling tree.

In July, 1865, two little boys, seven and five years of age, sons of Wm. Galbraith, while out after cows, a severe storm coming on the cows ran in an opposite direction, and the little fellows got lost and were compelled to stay out all night. In the morning several persons started on horseback to find the children, whom they soon met coming home. They bivouacked on a gopher's hill.

On the 3d day of March, 1867, a daughter of Stephen Huntley, aged eight years, was burned to death at Floyd.

On the 8th day of March, 1867, a daughter of F. Dale, aged four years, was burned to death at Floyd.

On the 4th day of July, 1868, Jacob Whitbeck was drowned while bathing in a pond near his father's residence in Floyd Township.

July 17, 1868, a young German of considerable means, but unable to understand English, was binding wheat for C. P. Burroughs, near Floyd, in the afternoon, when he suffered a fatal sun-stroke. He was told not to work so hard, but it was thought that he misinterpreted the warning and supposed he was urged to do more.

July 24, 1869, Henry W. Cunningham and wife, a mile and a half north of Floyd, were killed by a stroke of lightning during the night while they were in bed. Theodore Cunningham the only other person in the house, was stunned. The remains of the deceased young couple, clad in their wedding garments, were buried in the cemetery at Charles City.

Feb. 10, 1872, a most disastrous fire occurred in this county near Watertown. On the night of that date both the dwelling-house and the barn of J. G. Thompson were entirely consumed by fire, with nearly all the contents. Five valuable horses were a part of the loss in the barn. Total loss nearly \$10,000; insurance \$5,000. Origin of fire, possibly sparks from the chimney falling upon straw on the ground.

John Sharky, son of Philip Sharkey, of Floyd, supposed to have committed suicide by cutting his throat, was found in the river near Floyd on the 4th day of May, 1873, after the body had lain under the ice for four months.

July 16, 1878, a three-year-old girl of Mr. Holland's, the section boss at Floyd, was missed, and search was made all night by some forty or fifty persons, and about six A. M. she was found by



Charlie Hoord, weeping bitterly, chilled and cold, being thinly clad, and without shoes, hose or bonnet.

Nov. 15, 1878, about three o'clock in the morning, the immense barn on the farm of J. G. Thompson, section 28, was discovered to be in flames, which were too far advanced to be extinguished. Six horses, 900 bushels of oats, 460 bushels of wheat, a large quantity of hay and twenty-four fine hogs were all consumed. Among the horses was one of the finest stallions in the county. Fire supposed to be incendiary. Insurance to cover only a third of the loss. Mr. Thompson had before this suffered a number of similar misfortunes.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

In February, 1858, the first bridge was constructed of wood over the Cedar River at Floyd, but in March, 1859, was swept away before being completed. This bridge was a private enterprise.

In 1868 the county erected a bridge over the Cedar at Floyd, a part of which went out in March, 1869. It was rebuilt and went out again in September of the same year. Erected a combination bridge of iron and wood across the Cedar River at Floyd in 1875.

In 1857 every vote cast in Floyd Township at the June election was Democratic.

July 4, 1860, a fine Sunday-school celebration at Floyd, when Hon. Oran Faville, of Mitchell, delivered the oration.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

The following persons have held the office of Justice of the Peace: Chester Butterfield, E. W. Jones, H. Wilbur, Henry R. Hubbard, James Raymond, Lebeus Barnes, Alden Flint, O. Haven, E. H. Morrison, G. B. White, L. H. Waterbury, A. P. Seaton, Wm. Sprague.

Assessors since 1856, have been: Wm. A. Cooley, Alden Flint, J. W. Dawley, James Raymond, M. G. Cook, Wm. Sprague, Joseph Manson, G. B. White, P. Sharkey, J. W. Webster, A. Laban, O. H. Fluent, M. H. Curry, John Clark.

Township Clerks have been: Joseph Manson, Wm. Sprague, R. P. Jackman, Otis Haven, E. S. Thomas, I. M. Merriman, A. S. Griffith.

Trustees since 1856: James Griffith, Lewis Birney, Henry R. Hubbard, John Richardson, N. A. Rice, R. P. Jackman, G. B. White, Geo. E. Raymond, James Coley, B. B. Van Steenburg, Samuel

Clark, Geo. E. Smith, E. H. Morrison, Alden Flint, Jesse Edwards, J. N. Montgomery, S. C. Purdy, O. Haven, J. W. Webster, Wm. Hausberg, A. B. Lanphire, C. Butterfield, L. Cunningham, Harris Quinby, Moses Stewart, Jr., J. H. Benedict, Wm. Morse, A. M. Cunningham, A. Loban, Jerry Butterfield, P. Sharkey, A. Fowles, Thomas Martin, Wm. Morse, Jesse Edwards, N. A. Rice, O. H. Fluent, A. H. Merriman, W. Raymond, A. M. Cunningham.

Constables have been R. H. Hubbard, Henry Tatum, Wm. Carl, James Montgomery, Coleman Bumgardner, I. K. Lee, P. Sharkey, P. D. Larabee, James Raymond, Jr., H. M. Brown, C. P. Collins, Andrew Rice, Wm. L. Dayton, Wm. Morse, N. M. Wolcott, V. R. Rider, L. M. Fluent, Benj. Smith, J. R. Rider, Sidney Stickney, Jas. Raymond, Lucius Cole, R. J. Rankin, A. J. Harwood, John Snyder, Wm. Smith, Levi Moon, Geo. F. Seaton, R. J. Rankin, C. B. Crosby.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Edward G. Beattie*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 23, Floyd Township, was born in Canada West, Dec. 20, 1837. His father, Edward Beattie, was of Scotch descent. In 1846 his father brought his family to Lake County, Ill., and to this township in 1854, where the family still reside. His father died Jan. 8, 1873. He owns 150 acres of well-improved land. He was married, Jan. 5, 1863, to Elizabeth Saltgiver. Of their seven children, four are living—William, Lewis, Rosa and an infant girl.

*Lewis Birney, M. D.*, born in Syracuse, N. Y., Jan. 1, 1823, is a son of James Birney, a native of England, who died when Lewis was quite small. He was reared and educated in his native town, attending the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Toronto, Can., in 1850-'51, graduating in 1851; also graduated from College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Keokuk, Ia., in 1878. He commenced to practice in 1851 in Canada. He moved to Garden Prairie, Ill., in the spring of 1856, and came here the following fall. He is the pioneer physician of the county; had a large territory to practice in; was frequently called to go forty and fifty miles. He has a large practice; is a very skillful surgeon. He is a member of the Masonic order. He was married April 27, 1846, to Mary M. Ferris. Of their seven children, six are living—Clarius C., Varriness C., Matilda A., Catharine M., Erasmus L. and Oelia J. The three sons are all practicing medicine; one daughter, Ma-

tilda A., also practiced medicine a short time. She is now the wife L. A. Snow. Mrs. Birney's father, Hiram Ferris, was born in New York State in 1801, and her mother in Canada in 1808.

*William E. Brill*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 22, Floyd Township, is a native of New York State, born Dec. 14, 1834. His father, Nelson Brill, is a native of Pennsylvania, who moved to Kenosha County, Wis., in 1838, and to Sauk County, Wis., in 1846. He came to Floyd County, Ia., in 1867. He was married in 1859 to Eliza Degolia. They had one child—Charles. Mrs. Brill died and in 1865 he married Jeanette Richmond, born in Erie County, Pa. He deals in wood and timber.

*Bushnell K. Bronson*, born in Steuben County, N. Y., Dec. 20, 1819, is a son of Thomas Bronson, of Connecticut. He was educated in the Genesee College, N. Y.; came to Maquoketa City, Ia., in 1854; in 1855 he and his brother, Jas. A. Bronson, laid out the town of Wyoming, in Jones County, Ia. He built several large brick blocks there. He came to Floyd County in 1867. He went to Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1874 to educate his children. His son, Thomas B., graduated there in 1879, and is now Professor of Ancient and Modern Languages in the Michigan Military Academy at Orchard Lake, Mich. Mr. Bronson was married in December, 1857, to Martha A. Stone. Of their four children three are living, Thos. B., May, and Christina. Sidney L. died at the age of four years.

*Hartford M. Brown*, born in Franklin County, Vt., Jan. 10, 1820, is a son of Prisson Brown, a native of New Hampshire, who went to California in 1850. In 1833 Hartford M. Brown went to La Porte County, Ind., and in 1835 to McHenry County, Ill. In 1852 he came to this county, before the land was surveyed west of Floyd Township. Indians, buffaloes, elk, deer, and bears roamed over the prairie. He saw thirty or forty deer in one drove. He was married April 16, 1847, to Lovina A. Brown. Of their ten children, four are living—Minerva, Malinda, Mary and Luella. He has served as Constable two years. They are members of the Christian church.

*Abraham Butler*, born in Muskingum County, O., Feb. 12, 1812, is a son of Absalom Butler, a native of Maryland. He was reared on a farm and received a limited education in the common schools. He went to Fayette County, Ohio, in 1855, and came here in the fall of 1860, and settled on section 23, Floyd Township, where he now resides. He owns 160 acres of well-improved

land and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He is a carpenter and joiner by trade; also served an apprenticeship at the cabinet-maker's trade. He was married May 8, 1836, to Mary Blunt, daughter of James and Elizabeth Blunt. Of their eleven children only seven are living—Elizabeth, Mary E., Amanda, James, George W., Louisa, and John. Two daughters, Martha and Matilda, died at the ages of thirty-three and twenty-one years, respectively.

*John Clarke*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 20, Floyd Township, was born in Leicestershire, England, April 26, 1844. He is a son of Samuel Clarke, a native of England, who came with his family to America, and settled in Lake County, Ill., in 1848. He received his education in the common schools and in the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill. During the late war, he enlisted in Company H, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and served fourteen months, when he was wounded and discharged. Jan. 1, 1869, he was married to Mary Green. They have five children—Nellie, Hepsy, Willie, Merton and Perry. He came to this county in 1877. He has been Assessor the past three years.

*James Coley*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 34, Floyd, was born in Franklin County, N. Y., Sept. 23, 1824, and is a son of David Coley, a native of Dutchess County. He graduated in 1846 from the New York State Normal School, at Albany. He taught in Oxford and Oswego academies, N. Y. In March, 1855, he came to this county; was the first settler on the prairie northwest of Charles City, and plowed the first furrow. He was married in 1854 to Rosalie M. Willoughby, who died in 1862. Of their children two are living—Ellen and Amy. He was Township Trustee six years, President of the School Board four years, and was elected County Surveyor, but declined to serve.

*Jesse Edwards*, born in Huntingdon County, Penn., Sept. 26, 1828, is a son of Joshua Edwards, a native of the same State. He came to Iowa in 1854, first going to Dubuque County, and in 1856 coming to this county. He learned the trade of a carpenter when twenty years of age, and has always followed that occupation. He built most of the houses in Floyd; also built the flour-mill here. He was married in October, 1856, to Maria A. Magill. Of their two children only one is living—Jennie. Mrs. Edwards died in 1863, and Oct. 31, 1866, he married Mrs. A. E. Buckley; they have one child—Myrtle. He has been County Trustee three terms, and on the School Board several years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Albert S. Griffith* was born Oct. 26, 1836, in Chagrin Falls, a mile and a half from the birthplace of Garfield, attending the same church with him when a boy, and being personally acquainted with him. He went with his parents to Kane County, Ill., in 1850; to McHenry County, Ill., in 1851, and came to this county in 1853 and settled in Rock Grove. In 1859 he went to Arkansas, and in 1860 to Louisa, Ky.; from there to Indiana and sold fruit trees around Winchester; then went to Indianapolis and secured a position in the Commissary Department, but soon after joined the Eighteenth Indiana Regimental Band and served one year. In 1862 he went to Helena, Ark.; January, 1863, came back to this county; June, 1863, to Columbus, Ky., and in October of 1863 came back to this county. In the fall of 1863 he went to Osage and ran the Monitor House one year; then returned to Floyd and ran the hotel here one year. In the spring of 1866 moved to Nebraska; peddled groceries and provisions to the hands on the U. P. R. R., when it was building; in the fall of 1866 returned to Floyd and engaged in the mercantile business; in a few years sold out and bought an interest in the flour-mill now owned by Haven, Griffith & Harwood; in 1874 resumed the mercantile business in which he is doing well; keeps a full line of general stock. He was married Nov. 1, 1863, to Mary A. Rice, daughter of Andrew Rice, now of Mitchell County, Kas. They have two children—Lillian E. and Clarence H. Mr. Griffith's father, James Griffith, was born in the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., and moved to Illinois in 1850, and to this county in 1853, where he entered 700 acres of land for himself and others. At that time the nearest postoffice was Bradford, thirty miles distant. He married Abiah Storr. They had nine children, six grew to be men and women—Harriet L., Henry L., Sarah J., Albert S., Almira M., and Elizabeth M. (now deceased).

*Henry Ingram*, born in County Derry, Ireland, June 4, 1811, is a son of William Ingram, a native of Cambridgeshire, England, who was an officer of the English army, and died when Henry was but seven months old. He came to America, going first to Vermont in 1830; from there, in 1847, to Massachusetts; in 1852 went to California, and in July, 1853, back to Massachusetts. In 1854 he came to this county. He was married in 1834 to Ann Sharkey. They have six children—Mary A., Ellen, Margaret, Jane, Sarah and Lizzie. Mrs. Ingram died Sept. 21, 1880. The

family are members of the Catholic church. He is a member of the Alliance, also of the Mutual Insurance Company.

*Alfred C. Judson*, born in Delaware County, N. Y., March 27, 1845, is a son of Tarsus Judson, a native of New York, and now a resident of Floyd, aged seventy-eight years. He was educated in the common schools of Ogle County, Ill., where he went with his parents in 1854. In the fall of 1865 he went to Markesan, Green Lake County, Wis., where he learned the trade of harness-making, which he has continued to work at till the present time. In 1878 he came to Floyd County and went into business for himself. He does first-class work and has a good and increasing trade. He was married Oct. 17, 1879, to Isabelle Moon.

*Peter D. McKinzie*, born in Quebec, May 28, 1838, is a son of Dugald McKinzie, a native of Scotland. He was educated in an academy in Quebec. In 1871 he went to Massachusetts and resided in Lowell till February, 1880, when he came to Floyd County. He was married in October, 1865, in Ontario, to Margaret Shields, second cousin of General Shields. They have two children—Lizzie and Belle. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He resides on section 21, Floyd Township; owns 181 acres and is engaged in farming and stock-raising.

*Ira M. Merriman*, born in Hadley, Canada East, Sept. 8, 1819, was a son of Amasa Merriman, a native of Hartford, Conn., who settled in Canada in an early day. He received his education at Georgeville, Canada, and at Newbury, Vt. He went to Clinton, Ill., in 1843, and to Beloit, Wis., in 1845. In May, 1861, he came to Floyd County and bought a stock of groceries and dry goods; carried on the mercantile business most of the time for ten years. For the past ten years has kept the Stage House. Has been Postmaster and a notary public for the last fifteen years. Has been Township Clerk since 1864. He was married May 29, 1842, to Belinda R. Webster. Of their four children, three are living—Helen A., Amasa H. and Willie H. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*James Morrison*, section 13, Floyd Township, was born in East Loathers, Scotland, Feb. 9, 1828. He is a son of James Morrison, also a native of Scotland. When fifteen years of age he went to sea; sailed a year and a half and landed in New York City in 1845. He lived in Tioga County, Penn., two years, and a few months in New Jersey. He then lived in Livingston County, N. Y., several years, and in 1855 came to this county and worked at

the carpenter's trade; is also a millwright. He was married Nov. 17, 1858, to Jane Shaw, a native of Antrim County, Ireland, a daughter of Benjamin Shaw. They have four children—William W., James B., Helen M. and Agnes J. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*William Morse*, born in Waterbury, Washington County, Vt., Jan. 15, 1834, is a son of Leonard L. Morse, a native of Massachusetts, who moved with his family to Will County, Ill., in the spring of 1834; to Whitesides County, Ill., about 1836; to McHenry County, Ill., in 1842; and to California in 1847. In 1849 he went back to Vermont, and in 1850 to McHenry County, Ill., and to Chickasaw County, Ia., 1853. In the same year William Morse came to this county, and bought the land he now occupies. He went to Rice County, Minn., in 1855, and in 1858 came here, and settled on section 8, Floyd Township. He was married, Jan. 23, 1855, to Lucinda O. Horton. Of their seven children six are living—Adella, Charles E., Ida M., Anna E., Frank L. and William H. He has been Township Trustee, Constable and School Treasurer.

*Harry M. Nye*, deceased, was born in Vermont, Jan. 12, 1819. When about twenty years of age he went to Lake County, Ill., where, in 1843, he married Rachel J. Hubbard. Of their four children two are living—Mrs. Mary E. Rice and Charles E. Nye. He came to this county in February, 1855, and settled on section 22, Floyd Township, where the family still live. He was a member of the Baptist church, becoming a Christian in early life. He was hospitable and generous, always aiding in building churches and schools. He helped organize the first Sunday-school in Floyd. He died Sept. 24, 1881. He was a kind, affectionate husband and father, honest, upright and industrious, always one of the first in every good word and work.

*Hershel J. Perrin*, son of Ephraim Perrin, was born in Washington County, N. Y., May 24, 1836. His parents dying, he was thrown on his own resources at the age of eleven. He lived with Rev. Thos. Lang, near West Pawlet, Vt., one year; with Mr. Nelson, of Hebron, four years; and then worked by the month till nearly twenty-one. In the spring of 1857 he came West to Minnesota, and in July, 1857, he came to this county. He enlisted in the late war, in Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry. He was at Pleasant Hill, etc.; afterward on detached service in the pioneer corps. He was married Jan. 28, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Perrin have

five children—Harriet J., Alicia M., Ephraim H., Nora and Ester E. He resides on section 28, Floyd Township.

*Willard Perrin*, born in Windsor County, Vt., Dec. 13, 1854, is a son of William Perrin, of the same county. He came to Floyd County in 1874, and worked on a farm one year. He clerked for Griffith two years and in a drug store one year; then, in 1878, he went into business for himself, selling drugs, groceries, hardware and school books; capital stock, \$1,200 to \$1,500. He does an annual business of \$5,000. He was married in January, 1876, to Belle Ramsey. They have two children—Percy and Edna.

*Solomon A. Quinby*, born in Brookfield, Vt., March 21, 1821, is a son of Jonathan Quinby. He came to Floyd County in 1858. He is a contractor and bridge-builder. He lives on his farm of 180 acres, on section 21, Floyd Township. He was married in Chelsea, Vt., Sept. 17, 1845, to Harriet S. Woodworth, a native of that place, born Dec. 10, 1822. Of their eight children six are living—Laura, Albert, Cassius, Carrie, Sarah and Edith. One daughter, Ellen, died in Vermont at the age of ten years.

*Robert J. Rankin*, born in Burlington, Vt., Nov. 3, 1841, is a son of Hugh Rankin, a native of Ireland, who came to America about 1834. They moved to Messina, N. Y., in 1844. He was reared and educated there, and in 1858 came West and settled in Dane County, Wis., and in 1861 came in this county and settled in Floyd Village, where he lived till the spring of 1882, when he moved to the farm on section 19, and is dealing in stock. He was married Nov. 2, 1867, to Almira, daughter of James Griffith, deceased. She is a native of Ohio. They have one child—George. His father resides with him. He has been Constable for the past eighteen years. Mrs. Rankin was a neighbor of James A. Garfield.

*Frank Raymond*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 12, Floyd Township, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 27, 1844. He is a son of James Raymond, with whom he came West in 1850, going first to Wisconsin, and in 1852 to Illinois, and in 1855 coming to Floyd County. He owns forty acres of land. He was married Jan. 29, 1872, to Mary Johnson. They have two children—Bert and Lou. He has been School Director for several years.

*James Raymond*, born in Cornwall, Canada, June 5, 1830, is a son of James Raymond, who moved with his family to New York State in 1834, and to Fond du Lac County, Wis., in 1850; from



there to McHenry County, Ill., in the spring of 1852, and in June, 1855, came to this county and settled in Floyd Township, where he died July 9, 1879. James, Jr., was married Nov. 12, 1871, to Mrs. Maria L. Dennison. She had one son—George Dennison. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Luther Raymond*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 8, Floyd Township, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., July 20, 1848. He is also a son of James Raymond, who came West in 1850, and came to this county in 1855. He was reared on a farm and received his education in the common schools. He was married April 9, 1879, to Alecta J. Lone, daughter of Michael Lone. They had one child—Robert W. He owns 100 acres of well-improved land.

*Norman A. Rice*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 31, Floyd Township, was born in Belchertown, Hampshire County, Mass., Dec. 15, 1817, and is a son of David Rice, a native of Guilford, Vt. He came West and settled in Walworth County, Wis., in 1842. In September, 1852, he came to this county and settled in the wilderness. He now has 195 acres of well-improved land. He married, in 1845, Eliza Holcomb, who died in 1865. In 1866 he married Mary Shannon. He has been Township Trustee several years; is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*D. J. Richards*, carpenter; postoffice, Floyd; son of David and Elizabeth (Shafer) Richards, natives of New York State and Pennsylvania respectively; they lived in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. David died in Ohio and Elizabeth in Indiana. They had ten children and D. J. is the seventh child; he was born in Lancaster, Penn., Feb. 14, 1832, and came to Ohio with his parents in 1841, where he was educated and learned his trade, which he has followed since. In 1869 he came to Floyd County and went to manufacturing brick; this he sold and bought a farm of seventy-eight acres on section 10, Floyd Township, where he now lives. In 1856 he married Elmira Riley, native of Ohio; they have been blessed with ten children, nine living—Corbin B., born Jan. 27, 1858; Elizabeth, born 1860; Jessa, William Scott, Mary Alice, Charles Henry, Albert G., Frederick, Perly Gynette, Bertha. Mr. Richards votes the Republican ticket.

*Andrew P. Seaton*, born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Nov. 23, 1823, is a son of Leonard Seaton, a native of Canada. He resided on a farm till he was sixteen, his education being obtained in the common schools. His father was a tanner and currier and he learned the trade when a boy, and worked at it fourteen years, and

worked at farming fourteen years. In 1870 he came to this county and settled in Floyd Township. He owns a good farm on section 23. In 1874 he moved into Floyd and sold goods a while. He was Justice of the Peace in 1874, and again in 1876. In 1878 he refused the office, but was elected again in 1880. He was married in Watertown, N. Y., in 1846, to Laura A. Ferguson. Of their five children, four are living—Oren A., James H., George F. and Clara J.

*Philip Sharkey*, born in Ireland, Aug. 1, 1826, is a son of John Sharkey, a native of Ireland, who came to America and settled in Vermont in 1831, where Philip was reared and educated. He went to Hampshire County, Mass., in 1846, and came to this county in 1854, settling on section 12, this township. He was married Oct. 23, 1853, to Mary Maley. They are the parents of seven children, five of whom are living—Win. L., Thos. J., Chas. A., Mary A. and Martha J. One son, John P., died at the age of eighteen, and another, George H., at the age of three. He has been School Director fifteen years; was President of the Board of Education six years, Township Trustee, and Assessor two terms. The family are members of the Catholic church.

*Abner O. B. Smith*, born in Williston, Vt., Feb. 21, 1827, is a son of Hiram Smith, also a native of Vermont. He was educated in Burlington, Vt., and in 1850 came West to Kenosha County, Wis. He freighted there most of the time till 1860, when he came to this county. He sold goods in Floyd and Garner, Ia., for about eight years. He owns 168 acres in this county, 160 in Hancock County, and 160 in Nebraska. He resides on section 8, Floyd Township. His son, Horace W., is a physician in Garner, a graduate of Rush Medical College. He was married in 1849 to Charlotte Pierce. They have four children—Alvin J., Horace W., Florence H., and Ida. Mrs. Smith died in 1860.

*Henry D. Sprague*, son of Henry Sprague, of Cattaraugus County, N. Y., was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Dec. 20, 1836. He went with his parents to Jasper County, Ind., in 1845, and to Buchanan County, Iowa, in 1854. In the fall of 1854 he came to Charles City where he has since resided, with the exception of one season spent in the Rocky Mountains in the mines. He took a trip into Oregon in 1874. Jan. 19, 1862, in Rockford, this county, he was married to Charlotte Welch. Of their six children five are living—Clara J., William E., James E., Denny O., and Henry W. Nellie M. is deceased. He resided

in Ulster Township till March 1, 1882, when he took charge of the infirmary in Floyd. Has held the office of County Supervisor for Ulster, three years.

*William Sprague*, farmer; postoffice Floyd; son of Samuel and Rachel (Skelton) Sprague, natives of New York; they came to Illinois in 1844 and Samuel died there. William was born April 9, 1830, in New York, and educated there and in Illinois; he has always followed farming. In 1855 he came to Iowa and bought his present farm of 160 acres on section 29, Floyd Township, which he has under a fine state of cultivation. In 1853 he married Eliza M., daughter of William H. and Lavinia (Edmunds) Otis. They have three children—Julia, born July 16, 1854, wife of Noah S. Naden, of Mitchell County; Mary S., born April 13, 1864; William Otis, born May 5, 1873. Mr. Sprague and wife are members of M. E. church of Floyd. Mr. Sprague has held several of the township offices, and has faithfully discharged the duties of each. He votes the Republican ticket.

*Francois M. Wheat*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 23, Floyd Township, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., Feb. 14, 1830, a son of William Wheat, a native of Connecticut. He was reared on a farm and received his education in the common schools and at Delaware Literary Institute of Franklin, N. Y. He came to Floyd County, going first to Charles City in 1857; in June, 1859, moved on to his present farm of 150 acres. He was married Jan. 10, 1854, to Lydia E. Richmond, daughter of John Richmond of Schaffhausen, Switzerland, who served under Napoleon Bonaparte for three years and was carried prisoner to the Isle of Malta and kept two years, when, as the only means of escape, he enlisted in the British army and was brought to Canada, and from there escaped to America. He settled in Schoharie County, N. Y., and reared a family of seven daughters and one son. He died in 1874.

*Jacob Whitbeck*, born in Montgomery County, N. Y., Jan. 8, 1820, is a son of Robert Whitbeck, a native of Kinderhook, N. Y. He was educated in the common schools of his native county. In 1853 he moved to Rockford, Ill., and in 1856 came to this county. His house was the first one finished in the village of Floyd. He is a mason by trade but has followed farming and stock-raising since coming here. He owns 165 acres of land on section 19. He was married in August, 1840, to Mary Fero. Of their ten children only six are living—Henry, Nettie, Charles, Ella, William; and

Lizzie. One son, Albert, died at the age of twenty-two ; one, Jacob, was drowned while swimming in a pond, July 4, 1868, aged fourteen. Mr. Whitbeck is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church ; he helped to haul the lumber, gave largely in money and helped build the Methodist Episcopal church. He has done much for the public interests of Floyd. He and P. Sharkey were the committee who condemned the court-house at Charles City.

*Hervey Wilbur* was born May 4, 1811, in Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y. His father and grandfather were natives of Rhode Island, but immigrated in an early day to Columbia County, N. Y., where they experienced all the hardships of pioneer farmers. In 1814 his father removed to Otsego County, N. Y., where he lived till 1857. He was married Jan. 1, 1840, to Angeline Moore, daughter of Philip Moore, who was a native of New Jersey. He was both farmer and carpenter. While in New York Mr. Wilbur was honored with the offices of School Inspector, School Commissioner, Town Inspector of Schools, Justice of the Peace, etc. He was a Democrat and was defeated for County Superintendent and member of the Legislature, at the split of that party into "Hunkers" and "Barn-burners." In 1857 he came to Iowa with his wife and six children. They have one son, born in the "Hawkeye" State. The most of his family are living at Charles City, Ia. He entered the State as a Democrat and continued with that party till the war of the Rebellion, when he was a Union man from the first, and the close of the Rebellion found him, as he is now, a Republican. He is a school teacher by occupation, but was engaged in farming a portion of the time while in New York. He has held the offices of Justice of the Peace, County Superintendent of Schools and County Treasurer since coming to Floyd County.



## NILES TOWNSHIP.

### ORGANIC.

This is township No. 96 north, range 15 west. It was formed March 6, 1858, by S. B. Starr, acting Judge, and was organized April 14 following. It contains thirty-five full sections. Jan. 12, 1859, the south three-fourths of section 31, township 96, 15, was detached from this township and attached to St. Charles Township; and the north half sections 1 to 5 inclusive, of township 95, 15, was detached from St. Charles Township and attached to Niles; D. Ripley, Judge. At the June session, 1862, the west half of section 18, township 96, 15, was detached from Floyd and attached to Niles, and the south three-fourths of section 31, township 96, 15, was detached from St. Charles and attached to Niles; also, the north half of sections 1 to 5 inclusive, of township 95, 15, were transferred from Niles to St. Charles.

### GENERAL HISTORY.

This township was named after Niles, Mich. The first election was held in April, 1858, and J. B. Dawley, N. Dutcher and Ira Shaw were elected Trustees; Amos Refsnider, Clerk; Tilley Gilbert and Newman Dutcher, Justices of the Peace; Henry Green, Constable. The Little Cedar runs diagonally through the entire township, commencing on section 6 and leaving the township on section 36; this stream and its tributaries waters and drains the township; the Beaver is one of the tributaries which begins on section 2 and leaves the township on section 24. The general character of the soil is black sand, with here and there light clay and sand. The lay of the land is a gentle rolling prairie with patches of black jack, bur oak, and a few white ones in the southern and western portions and along the Cedar.

J. H. Pitcher entered the first land in the township in 1853. J. B. Dawley, Joseph Beckwith and E. K. Ash were the first settlers in the township; they located in 1854, coming from the States of Michigan, Indiana and New York respectively.

The first couple married of the township was J. H. Pitcher and Frances L. Dutcher. There being no Justice of the Peace in the township they went to Charles City, and were married there Jan. 18, 1856.

Emily J. Beckwith was the first white child born in the township. She was born May 13, 1855, and was a daughter of Joseph and Lucinda (Wood) Beckwith.

The first death was that of Mrs. N. Dutcher, who died September, 1856.

The number of school-houses in the township is nine; the value of school property is \$5,500. Number of persons of school age, 372—males 190, females 182; average daily attendance, 125. Average number of months schooling during year, seven. Total amount of teachers' fund, March 14, 1881, \$2,258.61; amount paid teachers, \$1,288.25; \$259 tuition to Cedar Township; balance on hand March 13, 1882, \$967.77. Average amount paid male teachers per month, \$26.20; average amount paid female teachers per month, \$19.96. Each district is provided with one copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. The school-houses all are seated with a patent seat and desk. The average cost of tuition per scholar, per month, is—winter, \$1.84; summer, \$1.92, or \$1.88 per year.

One mill per dollar is voted for township road tax.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Timothy Billings*, farmer and stock-raiser; postoffice, Niles; son of Timothy and Margaret (McTaggart) Billings, natives of Vermont and Scotland respectively. They came to Iowa in 1854, being about the first to locate in Niles Township, where Indians were more plentiful than white men. There was a family of children, of which Timothy was the fifth; he was born in Canada, Oct. 6, 1845. He had the privileges of a common-school education in Iowa of an early day, and worked on the farm with his father until he was eighteen years of age, when he enlisted in the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Company H, Capt. S. S. Troy, and served till the end of the war. He was in the siege of Memphis; Tupelo, Miss.; Selma, Ala.; Jackson, Miss.; Nashville, Tenn., and Columbus, Ga.; also in some twenty-five other minor battles in Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama and Arkansas, serving under Generals Sherman, Wilson, Grierson and Grant, and was discharged in August,

1865, at Davenport. After leaving the army he spent three years in the gold mines of Montana, where he made a good "stake." On returning to the States in 1869, he married Catherine E., daughter of Henry and Mary (Waters) Cobough, natives of Pennsylvania, where Henry died. Mrs. Billings was born in Pennsylvania, Oct. 10, 1846. By this union there are two children—Daisy May, born Oct. 29, 1870; Isora Elizabeth, born June 27, 1874. Mr. Billings has held several of the offices of the township, and has faithfully discharged every trust. He votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Billings owns 720 acres of fine land on sections 8, 9, 4 and 20, the most of which is finely improved. He is an influential and respected citizen of the county.

*Theodore Coon*, farmer; postoffice, Niles; was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., July 27, 1836, where he was educated and lived until 1854; he then moved to Illinois and lived there two years. In 1856 he came to Iowa, and located in Niles Township. He now owns 200 acres of fine land on sections 9 and 8. He is the son of Howland and Eunice (La Barron) Coon, natives of New York State, where they now live. In 1856 he married Paulina, daughter of William and Susan (Miller) Gillott, natives of England and Vermont respectively. They moved to Niles Township in 1854, where Mr. Gillott died in 1880. Susan was born in Vermont, June 30, 1833. This union has been blessed with two children—John Elmer, born July 28, 1862; Ulysses Grant, Oct. 28, 1867. Mr. Coon votes the Republican ticket.

*Joseph B. Dawley*, farmer, section 18, Niles Township, is a native of New York, and was born in Frankfort, Herkimer County, June 10, 1809. His parents were Ebenezer and Mary (Babcock) Dawley; he was a farmer and a native of Rhode Island; she of New Jersey. They were members of the Baptist church, and have a family of four sons and seven daughters. Joseph B. was the third son; he worked on a farm with his father, and attended school until eighteen, when he moved with his parents to Oneida County, N. Y., and remained there on a farm five years, then returned to Herkimer County, and married Mary Coolidge, on Oct. 26, 1831. She was born in Frankfort, N. Y., a daughter of Warren and Rachael (Swift) Coolidge. He farmed in Herkimer County two years, then went to Oneida County and purchased a farm, and remained until 1835, when he sold out and went to Hillsdale County, Mich. He cleared a hundred acres of heavy timber land for a farm, and remained there farming and

fighting ague until October, 1853, when he came to Charles City, Floyd County, Ia., and went to where Floyd now is, and bought the farm he now lives on, and built the first house in Floyd, Floyd County. Mr. and Mrs. Dawley have five children, viz.: Mary, wife of C. P. Hubbard, a farmer of Todd County, Minn.; Lorenzo J., a carpenter and joiner, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Lovina, wife of P. F. Allison, a farmer in Floyd Township, Floyd County; Joanna S., wife of L. L. Hill, a farmer in St. Charles Township, and Horace J., farming with his father. Mr. Dawley owns a fine farm of 213 acres, under good cultivation and well stocked. He is one of the enterprising farmers, representative men and old settlers of Floyd County, having been identified here since 1853, before this county was organized. He has seen this county change from its wild, uncultivated state to its present prosperous condition. He has held various offices of trust; he has been County Supervisor and Assessor; was elected Justice of the Peace in 1858, and held that office some five years. In politics he was first a Jackson Democrat, and cast his first vote for old Hickory, and at the organization of the Republican party became one of its strong supporters.

*Newman Dutcher*, carpenter and joiner, and farmer, postoffice Charles City; is a son of Wherton and Eleanor (Wheeler) Dutcher, natives of New York, where they died. Newman was born May 3, 1813, and was educated in New York, where he learned his trade and worked until he came to Ohio in 1846; here he farmed and worked at his trade nine years; then sold out and located in Green County, Wis., remaining there some three years; then he came to Iowa in 1855, and located on his present farm of 100 acres on sections 33 and 32, Niles Township. In 1833 he married Jane Morrison; there were three children by this union, one living—Frances, wife of James Pitcher, of Niles Township. Frederick, born Nov. 15, 1834; in 1862 he enlisted in the Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, Captain Slocum; he was taken sick and was in the hospital eight months, and died in December, 1863. Wherton, born Jan. 11, 1840, and enlisted May, 1861, in the Third Iowa Infantry; he served two years, two months, participating in the battles of Missouri and siege of Vicksburg and many other hard-fought battles; he was killed at the second taking of Jackson, Mississippi, July 12, 1863. Mrs. Dutcher died Dec. 19, 1841. Mr. Dutcher married in 1849, Mary E. Stoter; she was born in Connecticut. There were six children by this union, four living—Jane Ann, born 1849, wife of



Levi Knapp, of Ringgold County, Ia.; Abby, born 1852, wife of John Ellis, of Niles Township; Newman, born in November, 1855; Albert, born 1845; he enlisted in the Twelfth Iowa and was discharged for disability. On regaining his health, he re-enlisted in the Fourteenth Wisconsin Battery, and was permanently disabled and is now in the Soldier's Home at Dayton, O. Mary E. Dutcher died Sept. 8, 1856. In 1857 Mr. Dutcher married Mary L., daughter of John and Charlotte (Tyler) Snyder, natives of Pennsylvania and New York respectively. She was born in New York, Aug. 28, 1836. This union has been blessed with nine children, eight living—Ida C., born Oct. 3, 1858; John W., born Dec. 27, 1859; Eugene S., June 11, 1862; Nettie., Feb. 21, 1864; Mabel T., Aug. 29, 1866; Luella (deceased), born in 1869; Charles K., born May 21, 1870; Blanch Estelle, born May 21, 1875, and Arthur B., born Aug. 4, 1877. Mr. Dutcher and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Dutcher votes the Greenback ticket. He has held several township offices, and has faithfully discharged his duty.

*Horace L. Green*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; was born Feb. 18, 1818, in New York. He is the son of Amos and Olive (Miller) Green, natives of Massachusetts and New York. They came to Iowa many years ago and died in this county. Amos was a soldier of the war of 1812. Horace was educated in New York, by three day's schooling only. He followed farming until twenty-one years of age, then went upon the lakes and canal, where he worked seven years; he was pilot and wheelsman. In 1847 he married Temperance Hettinger. She was the widow of Alex. Hettinger, by whom she had two children—Mary, wife of A. J. Allison, of Minneapolis; Franklin, who served three years in the army and now lives in Cedar Township. Her father was a soldier in the Black Hawk war and died, as did his wife, in Floyd County, Ia., where they were old settlers. Horace came to Iowa in 1855, and bought his present farm of 180 acres of land, which is finely improved; he lives on section 5, Niles Township. This union has been blessed with five children—A. O., born March 26, 1848, married; Samuel V., Oct. 17, 1852, married; Laura, deceased; Eva, May 25, 1861, wife of James Sultiff, of Minneapolis; Stacy E., born May 26, 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Green are members of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Mr. Green has held several of the township offices and has faithfully performed his duties; he is also director and stockholder in the county fair. He votes the Republican ticket.

*Edwin Klinetop*, farmer; postoffice, Charles City; was born in Pennsylvania, March 9, 1828. He was educated in his native State, and in Illinois, where he studied surveying, which he has practiced since coming to Floyd County; has also been County Surveyor. In 1854 he came to Iowa and in 1855 located on his present farm of 350 acres of very choice land on section 32, Niles Township, and section 5, St. Charles Township. In 1856 he married Emma, daughter of Joseph Isaac and Elizabeth (Hale) Bassett, natives of England; she was born in England, April 27, 1840. Her father and mother came to America, and they both died here, the mother soon after coming, by disease contracted on shipboard. This union has been blessed with six children, five living—W. B., born Jan. 23, 1859; Charles W., Nov. 15, 1863; Mary Elizabeth, Oct. 2, 1865; Arthur Fry, June 30, 1868; and Frank Lewis, June 2, 1878. Mr. Klinetop and wife are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Klinetop is a member of the A. F. & A. M. fraternity; he has also held several township offices. He votes the Republican ticket. Has been a prosperous, and is a greatly respected, citizen.

*Evelina Leeson* was born in Ohio, Oct. 7, 1833; she is a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Funk) Wade, natives of New Jersey, and Ohio. Her father died in Ohio. Mrs. Wood moved to Nashua, Ia., and married Leonard Montgomery; she now lives in Cherokee County. In January, 1858, Evelina married John Fate. They moved to Iowa in 1858, and purchased her present farm of eighty acres on section 12. He lived here until 1863, when, on the 27th day of July, he was struck by lightning, from the effects of which he died, Aug. 1. By this marriage there were three children—Sarah Elizabeth, born March 4, 1854, wife of Louis Snider, of Chickasaw County, Ia.; Martin, born Oct. 9, 1857; and Francis, deceased. In 1864 Mrs. Fate married Merenius Leeson, by whom she has one child—Gertrude, born Feb. 12, 1865. Mrs. Leeson is much respected by her friends.

*Patrick O Hara*, farmer; P. O., Niles; son of Thomas and Mary (McElroy) O Hara, natives of Ireland. They came to the United States in 1846, and located in Lake County, Ill., where they lived until 1855, when they moved to Iowa, and located in Niles Township, where they died, he in 1867, and she in 1875. They had seven children, five living—Bridget, Patrick, John, Mary, Catharine and Thomas. Bridget died at thirteen years of age; Julia died in infancy. Patrick was born in Ireland, County Caven, March 14, 1835. He was educated in Lake County, Ill. In 1871 he mar-

ried Honora Holland, a native of Ireland, born May 28, 1849. By this marriage there were six children, five living—Thomas James, born Mar. 8, 1872; Mary Agnes, Aug. 6, 1873; John Cain, Oct. 29, 1876; Patrick Peter, Dec. 5, 1878; Timothy Francis, Dec. 5, 1880. Mr. O Hara and wife are members of the Catholic church. Mr. O Hara has held the office of Township Assessor. He votes the Greenback ticket. Mr. O Hara owns 160 acres of fine land on section 18, mostly under good cultivation.

*J. H. Pitcher*, farmer; P. O., Charles City; son of Eliakim and Margaret (Chambers) Pitcher, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively. J. H. was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Jan. 27, 1829. He was educated there and in Illinois, where his parents came when he was fourteen years of age. Mrs. Pitcher died in Illinois, where Eliakim still resides. J. H. lived at home until twenty-six years of age, then came to Iowa and settled on land he had previously entered (130 acres) on section 32, Niles Township, Jan. 18, 1856. He married Frances L., daughter of Newman and Jane (Morrison) Dutcher, living in Niles Township. She was born Aug. 21, 1836. This union has been blessed with six children—Mary Ella, born Nov. 7, 1856; Flora Jane, Nov. 12, 1859; Fannie Amelia, Dec. 8, 1862; Maggie Delphine, July 24, 1864; Harvey Newman, Oct. 12, 1869; Addie, April 2, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Pitcher are members of the M. E. church. Mr. Pitcher has held most of the township offices, and has discharged his duties faithfully. He votes the Republican ticket, and is one of the reliable and enterprising men of Niles Township. During the war he sent a man to serve three years, giving him twenty acres of fine land therefor. Few men ever gave this as a free-will offering.

*J. C. Staebler*, farmer and millwright; postoffice, Niles; son of Michael and Anna Margaret (Hurr) Staebler, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. They came to the United States in 1801, and located in Pennsylvania, where they lived until 1856, when they came to Iowa, where they died. J. C. was born in Pennsylvania, Oct. 20, 1829, where he was educated and learned the trade of millwright, which he followed, in connection with running mills, until 1875. He came to Iowa in 1878, and now owns 145 acres of fine land on sections 5 and 23, mostly under a good state of cultivation. In 1864 he married Eliza Jane, daughter of Stephen Decatur and Helena (Flick) Rader, natives of Pennsylvania, where they now live. By this union there are five children—Charles E., born Dec. 10, 1864; Alice Amanda, Sept. 29, 1866; George W.,

July 4, 1869; William Harrison, Jan. 14, 1872; Stephen Decatur, April 9, 1876. Mr. Staebler votes for the best men. He raises fine stock.

*John Zimmar*, farmer; postoffice, Niles; son of John and Katherine (Wolff) Zimmar, natives of Germany, where they died; was born Aug. 30, 1836, and was educated in Germany, where he worked in a vineyard until he came to the United States in 1853; located in Berrien County, Mich., where he lived till 1856, when he came to Iowa. He owns 180 acres of fine land on section 10, Niles Township, where he lives. In 1860 he married Katherine, daughter of David and Barbara (Kurle) Eidler, natives of Germany, where they died. Katherine was born June 28, 1838. This union has been blessed with eleven children, ten living—John Godfrey, born Sept. 30, 1861; Mary Sophia, April 11, 1863; Lillie Jane, June 2, 1865; Gynette, Oct. 11, 1867 (deceased); David William, July 3, 1868; Wilhelmina Katherine, July 20, 1870; Christian Charles, Feb. 15, 1873; Jacob Frederick, Jan. 12, 1875; Carolina Evalina, Aug. 24, 1877; Abraham Isaac, March 5, 1879; and Katie Belle, Nov. 5, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmar are members of the Advent church. Mr. Zimmar is a Trustee of the township, and has held several township offices. He votes the Greenback ticket.



## PLEASANT GROVE TOWNSHIP.

### ORGANIC.

Pleasant Grove Township, comprising township 94 north, range 16 west, lies in the southern tier of townships of Floyd County, second west from the eastern line, joining Riverton Township on the west and Union Township on the east. It was formerly a part of Riverton and Union townships, and was organized as a township of Floyd County in 1867, by setting off the east half of this congressional township, 94 north, range 16 west, from Riverton, and the west half, which was a part of Union, thus forming the whole and the only township in the county whose boundaries are identical with the congressional numbers and the United States survey (1867).

During this year a petition was circulated by Washington Young, (one of the early settlers, and now of Verndale, Warden County, Minn.), praying for an organization of the congressional township 94 north, range 16 west, as a township of Floyd County, to be known as "Pleasant Grove." To this he obtained the signatures of those residing within the boundaries. This petition was presented at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors at their June session, and the petition was allowed. And so congressional township 94 north, of range 16 west, was recorded and christened Pleasant Grove.

### THE NAME.

Of the origin of the name we give credit to Mrs. Susan Young, wife of Washington Young. It was undoubtedly suggested from the noun *grove*, this word having been applied to that locality as long ago as the first pioneers' settlement, as "Hecard's Grove," later on as "Ripley's Grove," etc. To the name as a township name there was at first some opposition, but the majority of the petitioners being convinced that the territory was in every respect a "pleasant" one, and certainly, in that neighborhood, arborious, they carried the day.

## THE FIRST ELECTION.

The first general election was held in the old log house, built by Joseph Ripley in the "Grove," owned then by Christopher or "Chris" Clark, and now the property of Lewis Forthun. "'Lectations" were held there that first year; the next in the board shanty of Henry M. Smith. The first election was organized by J. B. W. Montague, County Clerk, assisted by H. O. Pratt.

The second general election was at the house of H. W. Smith, Nov. 3 1868. Total number of votes cast, fifty, being a gain of nineteen in one year.

The following are the names of the persons elected: County Supervisor, J. E. Butler; Justices of the Peace, S. L. Reynolds, Isaac Newton; Trustees and Judges of Election, H. W. Smith, David McMurray, Isaac Newton; Township Clerk, Wm. J. Greer; Assessor, H. W. Smith; Constables, T. J. Briscoe, John E. Freligh.

## THE FIRST SCHOOL

—a subscription school, in progress in a log cabin, on the Griswold farm, in the southwest quarter of section 15. It was taught by Miss Julia Ripley, daughter of Col. Davis Ripley, afterward Judge for Floyd County. It was commenced in May, 1857, and was about thirteen weeks in length.

The first frame school-house was built in 1859, by John McNabb, and upon completion was painted red, and known as the "red school-house." Some claim no school to have been taught within its walls, while others affirm a positive knowledge of several terms having been taught, and name the teachers. Probably Miss Viola Reynolds taught one term there in 1862-'3. It was, however, for many years the residence of Mr. Dean, and no regular school existed there until 1868. In this year, by a vote of the town, it was moved to its present site, an addition added, re-furnished, and named District No. 1. It is known, however, that, until this house had been thus moved, a school was annually held in the old log house that had been for many years the home of Daniel B. Woods. The first term was taught by Miss Grace Davidson, of Charles City, in the summer of 1862. The first boasted of ten scholars. The school-house—that is, a portion of the logs comprising the house—is yet in position but used for brooding and rearing young chickens instead of children. There was school

kept here until the date of moving the No. 1 house. The first teachers were Miss Grace Davidson, Miss Lievann Conlee, Miss Nellie Conlee and Miss Marion K. Bliss.

At present there are nine sub-districts having school-houses, all of which are nearly new, comfortable and tidy.

#### RELIGIOUS.

A gentleman named Swan, living near Waverly, was the first preacher, he preaching at intervals during the summer of 1867. The next summer the Methodists of Charles City, at a suggestion by Mr. Smith, sent one of their local preachers there, a Mr. George R. Edmunds, who preached fortnightly in the same house, during that summer, and, at stated intervals, during the fall, winter and spring of 1868-'9. At the first meeting there were about fifteen present, including Jonathan Cable's family; C. Bicknese's family; Marsena Joslyn, wife and son; Christopher Clark and wife; A. B. Smith; Rudolph Young and wife, and, of course, Mr. Smith and family. About the 1st of July of the next year Mr. Smith and A. W. Gilman attended the camp-meeting at Lime Creek, for the purpose of seeing Mr. Lee, then the presiding elder for this conference, in reference to establishing regular preaching in Pleasant Grove. Mr. Lee told them, if they could raise \$100 for the first year, he would include them in the Rockford Circuit, giving them preaching fortnightly. They pledged \$25 each, and, returning home, easily raised the remainder.

There was a class formed about this time by Elder Joseph Gould with about eight members; Marsena Joslyn, Leader; H. M. Smith, Steward.

Probably two months elapsed after conference of that year (in September) before regular preaching was given. Elder Rewen, of the Rockford Circuit, was given the work. His first meetings were held in the log house, wherein, a few years later, the first election was held, and where, years previous, the settlers, as they came in, were glad to board their families with Mr. Ripley, or "Chris" Clark, who bought it of Mr. Ripley, while they hewed out of the grove their future home. As soon as school-house No. 2 was built, meetings were transferred there, but, aside from the board seats, a rude frame house, and a clumsy stove, it was not much better. Services have been regularly held at No. 5 since, the preachers and their date of work being as follows: Elder Rewen, 1869-'70 (Elder Joseph Gould organized class about 1868); Elder Mc-

Gee, 1870-'71; Elder Philip Gould, 1871-'74; Elder Ward, 1874-'75; Elder Gilruth, —; Elder Holland, 1875-'78; Elder Shoemaker, 1878 to 1880; Elder Skinner, 1880 and a portion of 1881, and Elder Brown, finishing that conference year, is now on his second.

The average attendance now is about thirty-five. Much interest has been manifest throughout the whole, and it is evident that the early movers, and, in fact, all of to-day, made and are making zealous efforts for the maintenance of the cause of the Master, and they have been aided by the most active and self-denying ministry.

W. C. T. U.

This is but one private in the ranks of the army of Iowa, of which county and township organizations are auxiliary. And this noble sentiment we found prevailing every where in the township. Although Pleasant Grove is happily and most singularly free from the effects of the demon whisky, and not a drop is sold within the township borders, yet the W. C. T. U. have a hold there, and "the cause" is well represented. Among the active movers we mention Mrs. J. O. Lockwood, Mrs. Wesley Brownell, Mrs. Frank Beal, Mrs. Geo. F. Lambert, and, we might say, the ladies of the whole township.

This branch was organized in 1880, Mrs. Wesley Brownell being the first county Vice-President for the township. At urgent solicitation, Mrs. Clute, of Charles City, went there and organized the union, at which time Mrs. J. O. Lockwood was chosen President (since and at present being the County President, and ably filling that position); Mrs. Fletcher Brownell, Vice-President; Mrs. Geo. F. Lambert, Secretary; Mrs. Frank Beal, Treasurer.

Its present officers are: Mrs. Lois O. Greer, President; Mrs. Geo. F. Lambert, Vice-President; Mrs. C. S. Mattoon, Secretary; Miss Kittie Lockwood, Treasurer.

March 14, 1880, another movement in behalf of temperance was started through the exertions of Geo. F. Lambert, B. F. Wright, a former resident, but now Postmaster of Charles City, and D. C. Hayes, also of Charles City. An interest had been awakened by the work of the W. C. T. U., but many not religiously inclined, and some who were conscientiously opposed to the work as performed by the women, were yet ready to embrace some other method that would lead to good results.



Speeches were made by Messrs. Wright, Lambert, Hayes, Brownell and others. A vote was taken to see if a society should be formed, to be called the "Pleasant Grove Temperance Society," which, of course, resulted in the affirmative, after which the following officers were elected: G. F. Lambert, President; John Brisco, Vice-President; E. M. Joslyn, Secretary; Miss Hattie E. Smith, Treasurer. The pledge, of ordinary form, was signed by forty-nine.

The meetings were to be made interesting by recitations, music and debate. And so from that day to the present time, precluding the busiest part of the year, meetings have been held to the same end as its sister society, the W. C. T. U., first, in School-house No. 5, and since January, 1881, alternating with the "Prairie District" neighborhood. Mr. Lambert was its President two or three terms, resigning in favor of the Vice-President, Wesley Brownell.

#### THE CEMETERY.

In the grove lies the village of the dead—the only village in the township. Unto it all must move. Who moved to it first? who dug the first grave? who were the first mourners? is not known, Iowa's laws concerning the registering of her dead under penalty of non-fulfillment being (to her discredit, we must say) of but few years on her statutes.

The cemetery was for many years under the control of a corporate body of citizens. A few years ago, by a two-thirds vote, it was given into the hands of the trustees, who have the responsibility of its proper care. It was recorded July 26, 1877. Mr. John Brisco is now sexton. It is known as "The Pleasant Grove Cemetery Association."

The first marriage within the limits of "94—16" was probably that of Peter Heckard, Jr., to a Miss Abigail Gibson, daughter of Joseph Gibson, in 1854.

The first birth was a child of Peter Heckard, born in 1855.

The first death was Mrs. Roxy B. Taylor, wife of John Taylor, in 1857.

The first three log houses built in the township were Peter Heckard's, Joseph Gibson's (who built a double log house just west of the present house of John Brisco), and Joseph Ripley's (the house the first election was held in).

The first forge set up in the township was by Joseph Ripley, but long ago deserted. Jonathan Cable built the second one in the township, which is yet standing, though not used by the public.

Lewis Forthun, J. C. Lockwood, John Brisco and others, about the time the grange movement was at its height, formed a society that was known as the Farmers' Club—after the manner of those organizations in the Eastern States. But owing to lateness of the season, and other conflicting causes, but few meetings were held. The object was a worthy one, and such a society should be in a flourishing condition in such an enterprising township as Pleasant Grove, agriculturally.

Our acknowledgments are due to Wesley Brownell, Lewis Forthun, I. C. and J. P. Lockwood, John Brisco, D. B. Woods, C. F. Beck, John Perry, Henry M. Smith, Frank Beal, Joel Doore, Geo. F. Lambert and many others, who have given a singularly able co-operation—a co-operation expected only from men who take a pride in carrying out promises, whether made or implied.

An incident illustrating the expeditiousness required upon the part of the settler in order to acquire land under the pre-emption act, on account of the fast influx of emigration, we give herewith. Mr. Wesley Brownell arrived in the county Dec. 15, 1855. The Government land-office, then at Decorah, opened on the 20th. To get papers under this act, one must settle upon a certain quarter and actually commence operations—building, etc. Mr. B. took up the southeast section 24, hired a yoke of oxen of some distant neighbor, drew the four corner-stones for his house, turned over a few furrows of prairie, filed his papers for pre-emption, and had his deed on the 20th. Decorah then was to be reached only by horse. We see him going at John Gilpin speed.

Pleasant Grove Township has never had a regular practicing attorney, though Mr. Seth Lockwood, previous to his moving here, was an active member of the New York bar, having read law under Harrington & Palmer, Peterborough, N. Y., and practiced there upward of twenty years, or until the new code went into effect in 1842. He was also justice of the sessions in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., for two terms. Since Mr. Lockwood's becoming a citizen of this township, he has filled the office of Justice of the Peace with satisfaction, rendering impartial decisions and giving singularly correct papers. Mr. Lockwood is at present in his ninetieth year, and retains a clear and unclouded mind. His son,

Jackson C. Lockwood, is the present incumbent of the office, and for clearness of drafting, and correctness of decisions, he follows the footsteps of his father. We understand that he also read law several years, his health not permitting of the arduous duties attending the legal profession. He has also been County Supervisor one full term.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Henry Allen* was born in Canada, and moved to township 94 north, 18 west, in 1878. He married Mrs. Joseph Johnson, *nee* Julia Ripley. Mr. Allen is one of the oldest residents in the county. She is a daughter of Col. David Ripley, formerly County Judge, whose sketch will be found among the illustrious dead. To Mrs. Allen we have given the credit of being the first in the field of pioneer education in Riverton and Pleasant Grove. She also taught one of the earliest schools in St. Charles Township. Mrs. Allen's life has been continually upon the frontier line until very recently, her father at first moving to Floyd so early as to necessitate a retreat from the Indians for two years; then back again; then, in 1864, to Colorado; then two years in Southern Iowa; then again north into Southeast Dakota. Mrs. Allen was born in Gallia, Ohio, May 8, 1837.

*Frank Beal*, one of the residents of the Maine or "Down East" settlement, was born in Dover, Maine, Dec. 14, 1842. He was a son of Herman and Phebe (Doore) Beal; his mother was a daughter of Joel Doore of the same town, and sister of Joel Doore, who now resides in this township, bringing the relation of "Uncle Joel" to a veritable fact in Mr. Beal's case. Mr. Beal received the common-school education of a Maine district school, living at home until his thirteenth year, when, in his sixteenth year, the gold fever seized him and he packed his trunk and started westward via the isthmus. For two years he was mining at Willow Springs, Placer County, after which he "railroaded it" on the San Francisco & San Jose Road. California life did not agree with him—the wet season was too wet, and the glare of the sun after harvest season was too scorching to be at all pleasant; and so in four years from the time of his arrival he started eastward, landing in Maine in 1864. He bought a farm in Charleston, upon which he lived four years, selling out in favor of one in Dover, working that one year. A chance as foreman of a large fancy-stock farm at Upton, Mass., owned by D. W. Batchelor, boot manufacturer, induced him to

again sell. His uncle, Joel Doore, having about this time got settled in this new "Garden of the West," wrote him to come; and thus, in 1870, he came to Pleasant Grove Township. He bought two eighties—the southeast of section 29 and the southwest of section 28. When he came here nothing but a log cabin stood on the place for a house, and from this, in a storm a few years afterward, the roof was blown, nearly crushing Mr. and Mrs. Beal and Mr. George Beal's family. About this time things looked gloomy and lonesome enough. By hard, honest toil and a practical mind he has to-day one of the best and pleasantest homes in this portion of Floyd County. From a log cabin he now has a house of all modern comforts and all the conveniences to be found in any farmhouse. From a straw-and-turf stable he has a commodious barn 60 x 32; crops, about eighty acres annually. He was initiated into Olive Branch Lodge, No. 124, of A. F. & A. M., at Charleston, Maine, in 1865, and is now a member of Alpha Lodge, of Greene. He married Carrie Batchelor, of Dover, Maine, April 14, 1866. Miss Batchelor was daughter of Nathan and Olive (Gerry) Batchelor, who are long residents of that town. Mrs. Beal was one of the first in the ranks of the W. C. T. U., being its charter Treasurer.

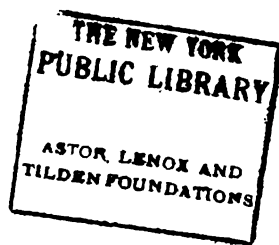
*Charles F. Beck* was born in Greene Township, Gallia County, O., May 18, 1845. He was the sixth in a family of thirteen. His parents are Jacob and Sophia Beck, now living in Riverton, whose biographies may be found in the contents of that township. Charles F., like the majority of boys in those early days, received but a common-school education, but by a wise use of that, together with shrewd powers of observation, has mastered all obstacles, so far as general knowledge and business laws, and the right and wrong in the political economy of the country goes. He was at home during his minority, and until his twenty-fourth year, when he took unto himself a wife, marrying Miss Viola Reynolds, daughter of S. L. Reynolds, formerly of this township, but more recently of Greene. Miss Reynolds had the honor of being the first teacher in School-house No. 1, and perhaps in the district. About the date of his marriage he bought his present home—a farm of ninety acres, on section 8. To them one child, a daughter, has been born. Mr. Beck crops about eighty acres on his own place, and some forty more on an adjacent section. Inasmuch as we found Mr. Beck to be one of Floyd's earliest settlers, we have used many of

the facts thus gleaned in the body of the work, and for which we give credit.

*John Frederick Christian Bicknese*, born in Erichshagen, Wolpe County, Kingdom of Hanover, Dec. 17, 1815, was a son of Conrad and Marie (Lubbers) Bicknese, and the eldest son of six children. He lived at home until his fifteenth year, when he worked for a year and a half in a hotel. Then for two years for a dyer, when he entered into a contract to learn the trade. In August, 1838, he took out a passport, dated Aug. 30, 1838. In those days a passport book had to be obtained and each night to be left with the police until further movements demand its possession. His movements were about as follows: starting from Erichshagen, he staid first at Celle; from Celle he went to Breinen, from Bremen to Oldenburg. At each place all travelers are examined to see if they have been vaccinated, and if they have traveling money—\$5 being requisite before proceeding. From Oldenburg he went to Varel, then to Aurish, then to Burgsteinfurth, where he worked nearly two months. After this to Osnedrick, then to Wildeshansen, then to Buckeburg; from here to Hildesheim; from here to Braunschweig, then to Grimma, Saxony, then to Leipzig; from here to Dresden; from here he went to Breslau, Prussia; from here to Lignitz, then to a part of Prussia Poland, Zduny; from here to Kozmin; from here to Thoren, then to Elbing via Grauding and Marenwerder; from Elbing to Soldan; from here to Hohenstein; here he worked three months. Then to Konigsberg; from here to Danzig, Prussia, again; from here to Stolp, then to Coslin, then to Colberg, then back to Stolp, where he secured five weeks' work. From here to Landsberg, then to Rueenwale; here he worked fourteen weeks. From here to Soldin, then to Stettin. During this time he was traveling on foot, and here, having sore feet, he had to be still a few days. Then to Stralsund; from there to Demmin, from there to Paswalk, from there to Naubrandenburg, from there to Frankfort-on-the-Oder, then back to Breslau; from there to Leobschuetz, then to Hirschberg, then to Zittan, then to Freiberg, from there to Chemnitz. There he was fortunate enough to find work for one year and a half, where he had charge of forty-five men. After this, desiring more experience, he resigned and went to Erfurth, working about five weeks; then to Gotha, then to Minningen, then to Coburg, then to Bavaria, Culmbach, from there to Bayruth, then to Schnabelwid, then to Nurnberg, then to Ausbach, then to Westertrudingen, then



*Mc H. Nickerson*



to Koslinger, then to Donanworth, then to Augsburg, then to Schwabmunchen, then to Kaufburen, then to Kempten, then to Iesny, Wurtemberg, then to Lentkirch, then to Stuttgart, then to Nalen; there he worked fourteen weeks. From there to Gmünd; there he again worked fourteen weeks. From there he went to Tubingen, then to Balingen, then to Schafhausen, then passing over the border of Wurtemberg, to Gallen, Switzerland; there he worked fourteen weeks. From there to Berne, then to Lucerne; from here back to Germany, Baden Baden, to Freiburg, then to Menheim; from there to Wurzburg, then to Bamberg; from there to Cumbach, then to Hof, then to Griez, then to Altenburg, then to Hildeshim, and from there to where he was born, arriving home Dec. 8, 1842, making a journey of four years and four months. This has been taken from the passport book. It also shows about what the German journeyman has to pass through to gain that perfection in his trade that brings demand for his labor. He worked at his trade about one year at home; then from Bremen sailed to Baltimore, landing in America, Aug. 18, 1844. From Baltimore he went to Wilkinsburg, Pa.; worked seven years and a half in the Baltimore coal mine, Alex. Gray being proprietor. From here to Dane County, Wis., in 1852. While in Wilkinsburg he married Frances Hogstien. He lived in Dane County fourteen years and a half. Then came to this township, Nov. 30, 1866. His children are—Clemence L., Mary C., John Francis, Bernard, Katy, Frank, Joseph, Dora, and Lena. His wife died in March, 1878. He owns 40 5 acres, and crops: of corn, eighty-five acres; of oats, forty-two and one-half acres; of wheat, eighty-six acres; tame grass, fourteen acres.

*John Brisco*, one of the earliest pioneers of Iowa, and one who has seen nothing but frontier-life since his early boyhood in Shelby County, Ky., until now, was born of good old Kentucky stock in Shelby County. His parents moved from there to Monroe County, Ind., when he was a small boy. His reminiscences of Indiana or Hoosier pioneer life; of their log cabins without a scrap of iron; their primitive customs as a whole, are very interesting. He lived at home, assisting his father to carry on the farm until his nineteenth year, when he went to work on the river, piloting the old-styled flat boat between Louisville, Ky., and New Orleans. It was a life of intense hardship. One of these boats, floating with the stream, took fifteen days or more to do the journey. The boats, when they



arrived, were sold for the lumber in them, though some of them have been brought up the stream by means of ropes and horses. In 1843 he married Adeline Head, of Monroe County. Her father emigrated from "New Virginia" when she was but two years of age. Their names were Josiah and Lydia Head. Both died when she was quite young. Mrs. Brisco is a grand example of what our early pioneer women were, having endured privations and hardships with her husband, working in the field as in the house, being a "better shot" with the frontiersman's rifle than the majority of them themselves, and lastly having raised a family of fourteen children, the greater portion living to-day to bless the mother and father from whom they have inherited sound constitutions and pure blood. Mr. Brisco, to-day, is healthy and vigorous. Upon Mr. Brisco's marriage they moved to Kosciusko County in the fall of 1847, and from there moved to Allamakee, living there until 1861, when he moved to Riverton. In Allamakee County he moved to Rossville, where he bought 200 acres—two besides himself living in that section at that time, and laid out the town, now Rossville. He carried on the farm for three years, then moved to town and went into the manufacturing of plows and blacksmithing with David Skinner, and remained in the company seven years, when he sold out and formed a partnership with Mr. Ross and built a steam grist-mill, which he ran about one year, returning to the farm. During the time he ran the manufacturing of plows he went into and established a shop at Oronoko, on Zumbro River, running it one year and sold out. During this time he also made two trips to Pike's Peak, it being the time of the gold fever, crossing the plains four times with an ox team; the first time there was a company of sixty men and thirty wagons; the second time twenty-seven men, one woman and sixteen wagons. During the last trip they made a halt at Denver, the Indians being on the war-path. At the time of their settlement in Iowa, bears and game were abundant. Mrs. Brisco has seen five bears at one time. The pigs had to be kept in the house; and being afraid they would molest the children, Mrs. Brisco learned to use the rifle. Some of her shots rival the stories of the frontier marksman. Her husband once wagered a pair of pants against a new dress that she could not kill over four or five partridges or wood pheasants at a shot; but her scoring thirty-one birds with every shot won the dress. Few women in the history of frontier life have equaled this. Squirrels and wild turkeys were doomed if she could see as much as their heads. She has

killed two deer. In 1870 he bought a farm of ninety acres in Pleasant Grove and lived there four years; then sold it and bought the one of 160 acres, where he now resides. Their children are—Prier L., Lydia M. and Elizabeth Jane, born in Monroe County, Ind.; Jeremiah and Harriet M., born in Kosciusko County, Ind., Matilda I. (the first child born in the county), John L. (died when three years old), Emmie L. (died in infancy), Josiah, Clementine and Robinson M., born in Allamakee County, Ia.; Charles C., Francis U. and Walter M., born in Riverton, Floyd County.

*Wesley Brownell* was born in Delaware County, N. Y., Oct. 16, 1830; received a common-school education; remained with his parents until about twenty-one years of age, when he commenced to do for himself, by working for his neighbors. At the age of twenty-four he bantered a chum of his own age to respond to the call from Kansas, for settlers from the East. Though his friend declined, he packed his trunk and started for the broad prairie land of the West. He spent the first year in Illinois, and in 1855 he came to Iowa. An incident we here relate illustrates the expeditiousness required upon the part of the settler in order to get land, on account of the fast inflowing population. Mr. Brownell arrived in this county Dec. 15; the Government land-office at Decorah opened on the 20th. He commenced improvements on 160 acres, section 24, Riverton, now Pleasant Grove, Township; filed his papers for pre-emption in the meantime, securing the land on the 20th. Upon this land he resided until 1868, when he sold and moved to Mitchell County and purchased a farm and made that his home two years. At the expiration of this term he returned to Floyd County, and farmed land on shares three years. In 1873 he purchased the farm of 160 acres where he still resides, section 36, Pleasant Grove. He crops about 125 acres: corn, seventy; oats, thirty-five; balance tame grass; keeps about twelve head cattle, four horses and from fifteen to one hundred hogs. Has always escaped the hog cholera till last year, when he lost seventy-five head. During the war Mr. Brownell was drafted as second to a drafted man; there being only one man drafted in the company. Fortunately for Mr. Brownell, the man was accepted upon examination. The township organized an insurance company for the benefit of those who might be drafted. Their first papers proving inefficient they drew up new ones. They all signed the new ones except this Mr. Wilcox, who happened to be the only man drafted in the township. Mr. Brownell was married in Bradford, Chickasaw

County, Ia., April 21, 1861, to Miss Jane Adams a native of Canada. Their family consists of five children—Elva A., Martin C., Minnie O., William I., and Robert S. He is a member of the order of Freemasons. Is a member of the Baptist church, and has been a Republican ever since the party had existence. Voted for Fremont in 1856 and was previously an Abolitionist. While a citizen of Riverton Township he held the office of Assessor seven years, and was County Supervisor some three terms; was Township Clerk one year previous. Since becoming a citizen of Pleasant Grove he was elected Assessor, which position he has held for the past three years. Besides being a member of the School Board the greater part of the time, while residing in both townships, several years, he acted as Secretary. Mr. Brownell cast the first vote in this township. Mr. Brownell stands high in the esteem of his fellow towns-people, as a man whose word is as good as his bond; such, too, is the reputation given the Brownells in the history of Delaware County, N. Y.

*Allan J. Doore*, son of Joel and Sarah (Cushing) Doore, whose sketch joins this, was born in Atkinson, Piscataquis County, Me., May 19, 1844. He came to this township the first year of its organization. He received an academic education; taught several terms of school winters, and helped his father on the farm summers. His idea of Western prospects have been quite fully realized. He married Alice M. Lockwood, daughter of J. C. Lockwood, of this township, May 19, 1872. Their children are—Raymond L., Allan W., Harry C., and Grace M. He has 240 acres of land in Scott Township, sections 32 and 33. Mr. Doore, like his father, is a thrifty farmer, bringing Maine pluck and energy. The attraction of the prairie to a farmer-bred New England are great. Mr. Doore when first arriving in this locality thought he saw, at least, "easy agriculture" compared with that among the rocks and stumps of Maine, and wrote his father to this effect. He had no intention of staying when he left home, the object being in the main to escort his sister, Mrs. Rodolpha Young, to her home. The surprise he had, together with the great difference between the soil of the Pine Tree State and that of the Hawkeye, made him form the resolution of staying, and, buying a quarter section, immediately sent word to his parents to come West. In two years his persuasions brought the "old folks." Father and son live in happiness and comfort together. He has 225 acres under cultivation: 100

acres of corn ; sixty, rye ; sixty-five, oats. Has gone into the bee culture, having at present fifteen hives.

*Joel Doore*, or "Uncle Joel," as he is familiarly called by nearly every one living in the "Maine settlement," came to Pleasant Grove Township in 1869, at the urgent solicitation of his son and daughter—now Mrs. Rudolph Young, of Verndale, Minn. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years. The old-style Scotch practice, so eloquently described in Robert Burns' "Cotter's Saturday Night," seemed peculiarly appropriate to Mr. Doore's whole-souled, yet simplicity of, character, and the morning worship thus conducted will ever be remembered by the writer of this sketch. Mr. Doore was born in Dover, Piscataquis County, Maine, Nov. 7, 1813. He was a son of Joel and Hannah Doore, one of Piscataquis's early settlers. The family consisted of eight sons and three daughters. Of course in those early days, even East, schools were in a rude and primitive state, in consequence of which no one received but a common-school education, and education, like many other branches of vital importance to the development of character, being dependent on the man's mind, his powers of self-restraint, observation, integrity of character and purpose. He has always followed the farm as a means of livelihood, with the exception of one year, which he spent in California in 1849-'50. He married Miss Sarah Cushing, daughter of James and Nancy Cushing. The names of the children born to them are—Eliza N., James N., Nancy C., Isley O., Allen J., Pauline S. Eliza N. married Charles Ramsdell, and is living directly opposite her father's; his two sons, Isley O. and James N., were of the first of those brave volunteers who left the comforts of their homes, their social and domestic pleasures, and who severed for the time the ties which linked them to their families and friends, to rally for the defense of their country and the institutions under which they had been permitted to enjoy there comforts, pleasures and affections; to face the stern realities of grim-visaged war; to endure the hardships and privations of the field; to inhale the pestilential emanations from Southern swamps; to languish in sickness and pain, and to find solitary and unknown graves where neither father, nor mother, nor brother, nor sister could come to drop affection's tears. And thus they died, and lie with thousands of unknown and unmarked graves, the former near New Orleans, where he died of fever, November, 1862; the latter on Ship Island, of the same disease, July 17, 1862. But their patriot-

ism and their sufferings, in the hearts of their towns-people, and on the Roll of Honor, shall be an enduring monument. Pauline S. married Clifton Huckins, M. D., son of Deacon Huckins. Mr. Huckins was the first and only physician in Pleasant Grove. Mr. Doore moved from Maine in 1869, buying 160 acres in section 32. He brought with him Maine ways and economy—the wholesome teachings of thrifty, broad-minded parents, as all New Englanders of the past generation, who reared large families among the rocks and the forests and the hills of the East, were. From these teachings he has been able to meet the world in a practical and yet pleasant way, and to have accomplished in these few years of Western experiences what many of our more Western residents, with an easier notion of life and methods, have been years longer in doing. He has fine buildings, a barn about 40 x 60, and his manner of husbandry evinces plainer than words its practicability. Politically he is a Republican, and when a resident of Maine held the various town offices at different periods. He crops this year about forty acres of spring wheat, twenty acres of oats, fifty acres of corn; has a large number of horses, and about fifty pigs.

*Andrew A. Egnew* was born in Rockport, Spencer County, Ind., July 18, 1841. His parents were James and Elizabeth (Varner) Egnew, of Kentucky. His father followed farming for a livelihood. Of a family of fourteen Andrew A. was tenth. He lived at home during his minority, enlisting in the Fourth Indiana Cavalry, Company K, Captain C. C. Mason commanding, a month *succeeding* his minority. He was engaged the first six months in hunting, running down the Kentucky guerrillas, Mason, the rebel among them. After this he was in Rosencrans's advance, going through the ever-to-be-remembered battle of Chickamauga. After the retreat of the troops from Chickamauga this company went into the march after Wheeler, when he crossed the Tennessee, after the Federal supply trains. After this his regiment was ordered as the advance, doing reconnoitering and surveying duty near Fayetteville. While thus engaged, doing picket duty, a minie-ball entered the arm through the inferior portion of the triceps muscle, two or three inches below the articulation of the humerus with the clavicle, and passing just beneath the bone emerged near the center of the biceps muscles, lacerating these most important appliances of nature's handiwork in a fearful manner, resulting in an almost total paralysis of the arm and a withering of the hand, the latter rigidly

contracted. The ball passing out of his arm entered his right side, making quite a serious, though flesh, wound. After this he was transferred to the veteran reserve corps, not receiving his discharge until the February of 1865. He is at present drawing a small pension—a pension much too small. After his discharge he taught school for ten or twelve years about his home, assisting on the farm during vacations. He was married April 9, 1869, to Cynthia M. Starkweather. Their children are—Sydney C. and Minnie R. Mr. Egnew lived in Spencer County until March, 1877, when he moved to Butler County, Ia.; lived there three years, then moved to Marble Rock, residing there one year; from there to this pleasant locality, section 8, township 94 north, range 16 west. Although we cannot claim Mr. Egnew among Floyd's soldiers, we can claim the same spirit for him as imbued their breasts—to fight, suffer and die for the preservation of the Union and the honor of the stars and stripes.

*James Fiddick*, an Englishman by descent, was born in Simonstown, Cape of Good Hope, Africa, April, 1857. His parents' names were James and Elizabeth Fiddick. His mother was born in Cornwall County, England, in 1826; was married in 1852, and moved to Cape of Good Hope in 1853. Mr. Fiddick was for many years connected with the civil service at Simonstown, living there thirteen years. Mr. Fiddick died in Cornwall, Nov. 18, 1873. Their children, born at the Cape, were Priscilla J., Richard, James, William, Laura J., Ellen E. and Emma A. Thomas and Bertha M. were born in England. James, the third of the children, emigrated to Rockford, Ill., when his mother and family came, in 1874. They lived in Rockford five years, moving to Pleasant Grove Township, to section 19, where all the family are comfortably settled. He married Rebecca Pooley in 1881, sister of John B. Pooley, a near neighbor. He is cropping about 100 acres. Mr. Fiddick is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Greene, and a most exemplary man.

*Lewis Forthun*, a native of Lyster, Southern Norway, was born in the year 1837, and was youngest and fourth son of Knut and Carrie Forthun. He lived with his parents until his nineteenth year, receiving such education as was to be had in Norway's common schools, when the desire of adventure took possession of him, the wonders of America being the unknown magnet. Bidding good-bye to father and mother, sister and brothers, and his native land, he eventually reached Dane County, Wis., after many inter-

esting experiences, as always happen to emigrants to whom the English language is foreign. Here he lived one year, moving into Rock County, where he farmed for six years. Here it was that he assisted in setting out the first acre of tobacco set out in this county—a branch of farming that now is extensively carried on. From here he moved into Crawford County, and from here, in 1864, he enlisted in the Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry, Company E, being engaged in the memorable battle before Mobile, where he was wounded, a minie-ball striking him directly in the mouth. The eagerness with which the majority of men of foreign birth, and, in some cases, of newly arrived emigrants, watched the late war, and enlisted when calls for more men were made, is a fact remarkable in history. After his return, in 1865, he married Mary E. Joslyn, daughter of Marsena and Mary A. Joslyn, late of Pleasant Grove Township, now residing in Greene, Butler County. In 1866 he moved to Pleasant Grove Township, and bought an eighty, or the Joe Ripley farm, in what was then Ripley's Grove. Also at the same time he bought an adjoining eighty of Washington Young, moving into a shanty built by Mr. Young a few years before. The work at first, as was the case with all new farms in the timber, was that of grubbing, but by assiduous labors it has brought the acreage of available land from a few to those of his large farm of to-day, he cropping over 100 acres of corn and oats. A few years ago he bought another eighty adjoining, east of the last, upon which he has built convenient farm buildings. Mr. Forthun has been active in politics, and has been chosen to most of the township offices, at different intervals, and for the past three years has held that of County Supervisor, of which to-day he is Chairman. Three children have been born to him—Jessie May, Horace Orville Wallace, and Walter S. Much credit is due Mr. Forthun as member of the Board of Supervisors for the rapid construction of the present court-house, and also as a man, who, coming to a new country, in a few years mastered its language, customs and politics so as to be one of the leading spirits.

*William Grierish* was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, in 1834, under the Grand Duke Frederick Frantz. His parents were Frederick and Lottie Grierish, and had six children, William being the youngest. He lived at home, working on a farm till his nineteenth year, when, in 1854, he emigrated to America, landing first in New York, staying eight months, and eventually coming to Milwaukee, Wis., where he remained a short time, and then

went to Waukesha County and worked on a farm till 1866, when he went to Columbia County and staid three years, finally coming to Pleasant Grove Township, Floyd County, where he still resides, settling on 120 acres of wild land. He now has 200 acres of fine land, on section 25, under a good state of cultivation. Has in crop forty acres of oats, twenty-five of wheat, sixty of corn, seven of barley, and twenty of tame grass. He owns forty head of cattle, nine horses and sixty hogs. He was married in 1861, in Waukesha, Wis., to Ann Bullen, a daughter of Edwin and Sarah (Osborn) Bullen, natives of England. They had a family of eleven children, Ann being the third child. They came to America in 1854 with a family of eight. Mr. and Mrs. Grierish have two children—Edward W. and Albert J., aged twenty and eighteen, both born in Waukesha, Wis. Edward W. is Secretary of the Blue Ribbon Lodge. His buildings are on the east side of his farm; the house is a story and a half, the front part being 16 x 20 with a wing 14 x 22. His granary is 18 x 28 and fourteen feet high, with stone basement underneath for horses; has an addition to the granary for four horses; has a cow barn 22 x 30, sixteen feet high and holds nineteen cows, with a hay-mow overhead; has a corn-crib 22 x 32, with corn on one side and hogs on the other; has a windmill, the Union Star, sixty feet high.

*Edgar M. Joslyn* was born in Judah, Green County, Wis., in 1852. His parents, who moved from Worcester County, Mass., are Marsena and Mary A. Joslyn. They have always taken an active part in the promotion of all religious movements. Their early married life was amid the noise and unhealthy odors of an Eastern cotton-mill, to escape which they came West, moving from Green County to Floyd, in 1865, thus being residents before it was an organized township, separate from Union and River-ton. In other portions of this township history will be found an account of Mr. Marsena Joslyn, as having been Leader of the first class, and Superintendent of the first Sabbath-school in the township. He is a public-spirited citizen, and is always to be found on the side where justice reigns. Of late years he has moved to Greene, his son Edgar running the farm. The log cabin yet standing on the home place was the first one they built, an old-fashioned pioneer's cabin. Edgar M. Joslyn married Zilpha S. Robinson, of Hampton, Ia., in January, 1881. Mr. Joslyn has also been useful to his fellow townsmen as a teacher of their schools for several terms. And while the "old folks" are enjoying the



quiet of a retired life in so pleasant a village as Greene, it must be a comfort to know that the "old place" is still running on in the hands of the family. Mr. Joslyn's sister, Mary E., is the wife of Lewis Forthun, a neighbor, and the present incumbent of the Chairman of the Board of County Supervisors.

*George F. Lambert* was born in Dover, Piscataquis County, Me., June 7, 1838; was a son of Paul and Maribah (Fish) Lambert. Their family consisted of eight children—Lanson, Hiram F., Samantha, Nancy, Julia, Ruby, George F., and Prudence F., all having passed to the better land but Hiram F. (now living in St. Charles Township) and George F. He lived at home during his minority and until his twenty-fourth year, when, in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-second Maine Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Girard commanding. Went into camp at Bangor about five weeks; breaking camp, they went via rail to Washington, camping in the heights; was in camp there about one week. From here the regiment went to Newport News; was there until the 25th of November. Then went via steamer "S. R. Spaulding" to Baton Rouge, and was put under Gen. N. P. Banks in his expedition against Baton Rouge. While at Baton Rouge he was taken sick with the dumb ague, as many thousands were, and went into the hospital, being off duty about three weeks. Then in March was taken with the measles. About 100 of the men were sick with them at the same time, and all were unable to do duty until after their discharge in August. In August, 1863, were mustered out at Camp Pope, Bangor. Mr. Lambert had a very narrow escape from dropsy. After his return he went back to farming, and lived there until his thirty-eighth year. Was married in Dover, Sept. 15, 1861, to Mary E. Page, daughter of Samuel J. and Susan H. (Goss) Page. In 1876 they sold out in Maine, and moved to Pleasant Grove Township, northeast section 29, buying of his brother, H. F. Lambert. The grove about his home was set in 1877 and 1878. We find Mr. Lambert's home typical of the comfortable New England home—the pleasantest of any in the world, especially to us Yankees. Mrs. Lambert was in the first movement toward the furthering of the cause of temperance, being the first Secretary of the W. C. T. U. of this township, auxiliary to the county; and has been Vice-President for two years. Three children have been born to them—Laura M., born in Dover Me., Aug. 15, 1862; Guy C., born in Dover, Me., Jan. 21, 1868; and Bessie A., born in Pleasant Grove Township, April 28, 1879. Mr. Lambert crops

nearly his whole farm; oats, thirty acres; corn, ninety-three acres; wheat, eight acres; tame grass, fifteen acres. He has five cattle, five horses, and 200 hogs, the largest number in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Lambert and eldest daughter are members of the Baptist church at South Dover, they having been members for twenty-five years. Mrs. Lambert, mother of George F., came West with Mr. Lambert and lived here four years in her son's home.

*James P. Lockwood*, one of the honored veterans of the late war, was born of good New England blood. His father, Seth Lockwood, whose interesting sketch appears here, and as will be seen was a native of staid old Connecticut. James P. was born in Greene County, Nov. 19, 1816, being second son of Seth and Diantha Lockwood. He lived with his parents until in his fourteenth year, when he turned to the state of manhood—"looking out for himself." Between this period and that of his coming West he followed various avocations that would bring him an honest penny. At first he worked on the Croton Water-works about New York City; then in the lumber business, and also learned the joiner's trade, working at it at different times, until his moving to Floyd County, in Syracuse and Rochester for several years. He helped to build the propeller "Indian Chief," after the completion of which he went up through the Welland Canal, just completed, and so on to Milwaukee, Wis., in which State he remained for several years, and from which he enlisted. While on the lake the propeller struck a ledge of rocks, giving him a touch of old ocean experience—his first and last. He lived in Detroit a few weeks only; and a year or longer in Milwaukee. He helped to build the depots along the route of the Prairie du Chien Railroad—that road, the civil engineers of which made but one important mistake, as the story went those days. When asked by the President their opinion of the road replied "that it was all right only they might have got one more curve in it as well as not." From railroad work he went to Menasha (Sweet Water), Northern Wisconsin, at the outlet of Lake Winnebago, where he was in season to help build the first frame house in that town. He also helped to build two saw-mills, dam and flumes, and ran each a year or so. His experiences in this town were not of a profitable nature, working there at the hardest kind of pioneer labor for five years, and not having scarcely money enough to get fairly out of the town with. His next residence was at Union, Wis.; from there to McGregor's Landing, where he built the dry docks; from McGregor's he moved to Racine, work-

ing in the works of the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company. It was while at Racine he enlisted in the Twenty-second Wisconsin Infantry, being in service two years, or until his health failed him. He was detailed as hospital nurse, and afterward given full charge of a hospital from that time out. These duties are always very arduous. Some incidents connected with the duties made them extremely so. For one instance among many, we relate that while at Danville, Ky., at a rumor that Gen. John Morgan's fiends were on a raid in that locality, the whole force, 15,000 strong, broke camp in search for them, leaving Mr. Lockwood for four days in sole charge of 150 sick men. This is what ruined his health; and awhile afterward he returned to Wisconsin, bringing with him all the sick he could, landing them at Chicago. After regaining his health he threw up a pension and re-enlisted in the 100 days' enlistment, going into Company F., Thirty-ninth Wisconsin Regiment, and for which he holds a certificate of the President's thanks for honorable service. After his discharge he was foreman of Racine & Mississippi Railroad; from this work he moved to Pleasant Grove in 1866, where he has since resided. Mr. Lockwood is a man of good judgment, out-spoken, but of honorable intentions and purposes. He was married in Menasha, Wis., in 1847, to Eliza Atwood. She died in 1857, in Chickasaw County, Iowa, leaving four children. In 1860 Mr. Lockwood was married in Racine, Wis., to Candace M. Salisbury, a native of Delaware County, N. Y., as were also her parents, April 29, 1870. Mrs. Lockwood died in Pleasant Grove, leaving a son, two years of age—Charles Erskine, who is residing with his father.

*J. C. Lockwood* was born in Smithfield, Madison County, N. Y., May 15, 1828. Lived there until nine years of age, when his parents moved to Hinsdale, Cattaraugus County, N. Y. While living there he was engaged in railroading, canaling and farming. Was engaged in the civil engineer corps in the construction of the Erie Railroad, and in railroading in general for seven years on the Canada, Great Western & Detroit. Was married to Mary L. Farwell, of Hinsdale. Seven children have been born to them, five of whom are now living—Alice M., Anna Katharine, Carrie M., Edith M., and Mattie. He moved to Pleasant Grove Township in November, 1868, buying 200 acres. Mr. Lockwood is at present Justice of the Peace, and was elected County Supervisor in 1874.

*Stti Lockwood*, one of the oldest citizens in the county, was born in Goshen, Litchfield County, Ct., May 7, 1793. At two

years of age his father moved to Windham, N. Y., now Lexington, Greene County. Lived there until 1820. Was married there to Diantha Thompson, the 6th day of May, 1813, who died in Madison County, July 17, 1824, leaving four children. In November, 1814, he cast his first vote for Governor; in 1817 his first vote for President, James Monroe being the candidate. Mr. Lockwood has never missed a vote since his first of 1814. Married Hepsy Boyden, of Smithfield, Madison County, in 1825, who bore him three children; she died in 1871. From Greene County he removed to Madison, Feb. 28, 1820, living there till 1837; then moved to Hinsdale, Cattaraugus County, May 21, 1837, and lived there thirty years, removing to Floyd County in November, 1868. The children by his first wife were—Eli T., James P., George M., Sarah Ann; by his second wife—Mary F., J. C., and F. E. Of the four children of first wife but one is living—James P., of Pleasant Grove Township. In 1825 Mr. L. read law with Huntington & Palmer, of Peterborough, N. Y., for three years, and practiced until the new code of New York went into effect in 1842. He was justice of the sessions for two terms in Cattaraugus County. For reminiscences, Mr. Lockwood distinctly remembers the extraordinary eclipse of June 6, 1809, when for about two hours fowls went to roost. He has seen the ground and fences white with snow the 4th of July. Mr. Lockwood has always taken an active interest in the political issues of the country; voted the Democratic ticket until 1856—or the Kansas question—when, according to his views, the Democrat party receding from true Democracy, he voted the Republican ticket, when John C. Fremont was candidate. Any one being acquainted with that question will remember the cause for change.

*James F. McRoberts* was born in parish of Strathdon, county of Aberdeen, Scotland, Feb. 9, 1820. His parents were James and Ellen (Beattie) McRoberts, natives of same parish. Lived at home during minority, working on the farm of his mother, his father dying before he was a year old. Their family consisted of six children, James F. being the youngest. He then left for America, landing at Quebec in August, 1841. From there he went to Hamilton, Canada West. He lived there until the war closed, when he moved to Coffin's Grove, Masonville, Iowa; lived in town about two years, then moved to Pleasant Grove about 1868. He was married in Hamilton to Miss Sarah Allen, who died there. Their

children are—Martha, Ann, John, Isabel, James H., David (deceased), Alexander and Elizabeth.

*John Perry*, who, without doubt, owns the largest number of acres in the township; who has the most convenient and complete set of farm buildings; who, undoubtedly, has the largest acreage of corn and small grain in this vicinity, and probably in Northern Iowa, and who earned it all by honest toil, was born in the town of Sempronius, Cayuga County, N. Y., in the year 1830. He was a son of hard-working parents, who, in their turn, transmitted their zeal for industry and enterprise to their son. His early life was spent on the farm. After his farm experience, he engaged with a canal company as canal boy, and followed this for some years. His parents moved from New York State to Cherry Valley, Winnebago County, Ill., thus giving him an early taste of frontier life. He married Miss Jane Toogood in 1852. Her parents' names are Sydney and Olive (Slade) Toogood, formerly of Tompkins County, N. Y. Mr. Toogood moved to Rockford over forty years ago, and helped to plat and also build the town. Is now a resident of Webster City, Iowa. Mr. Perry's parents' names are Oziras and Eliza (Merchant) Perry, now of Cherry Valley, Ill. Mr. Perry left Cherry Valley in January, 1855, with his family and household goods and all paraphernalia of an emigrant's equipment—a pair of cattle, a covered wagon, cooking utensils, etc., and a cow in train behind. A year previous, however, he had been into Floyd County prospecting, and purchased 200 acres of what is now section 33, township 95 north, 15 west, a portion of it being a portion of section 16, township 94 north, 15 west, or what was set apart for the school lands. He had bought this land of David Dyas, yet living in Riverton, paying him about \$5 per acre, and also some \$4 bonus for the privilege of living in the timber, its protection seeming indispensable. We believe, however, that this price included the improvements (?) and the crops. It is certain that Mr. Dyas immediately bought Government land for \$1.25, the price he had paid for this. The opinion of its being impossible to stand the bleakness of an open prairie has long since exploded. Mr. Perry's journey here was one of old-fashioned pioneer experiences. Reaching the Mississippi River, they, by driving one ox over at a time, drawing the wagon by hand, and dragging the cow on her side, succeeded in passing safely over, the river breaking up the next morning. In Dubuque he bought provisions and started for Floyd via Independence, working the trip in three days; his wife

staged it to Independence, then came in on the ox cart, as all other pioneer women had before. We think the first year in the log house must have been a lonely one, especially when her husband was gone a week to Independence or McGregor's Landing, for grist and provisions. Pork being \$1.40 per hundred weight, wheat 50 cents per bushel, and it taking a full week to go and come, an idea of the profit in farming can be had. And these experiences have made Mr. Perry a firm believer in railroads and their advantages. Floyd County as he saw it at first, had the advantages of milling privileges at least seventy-five miles distant. Charles City, styled Freeman Postoffice, had three log houses, one being used as the post-office and general store, the others, were occupied by John Blunt and Harvey Kellogg. It was the next spring that Joseph Kelley started a saw-mill. His neighbors were E. C. Wilcox, Sanford Ripley, Samuel Clark, John Porter and Hamilton Clark; these were the residents between his place and Nashua, though at that date Nashua was unknown. He lived there about eighteen years, selling to Charles Arthur, and moved to this township where, at different purchases, he has bought 960 acres, his present farm. This by no means indicates the acreage of his possessions in the county, nor of that in Dakota. When he bought his present home place there were no buildings thereon. To-day the best in the township are his. Not a house was in sight, and his good wife thought of a third pioneer experience. But it was not long before neighbors in this instance were welcomed. Mr. Perry is cropping on his home place about 800 acres: 560 of corn and about 200 acres of oats. To Mr. and Mrs. Perry have been born six children, named as follows: Edgar R., Leander O., Oscar J., George E., Carrie L., Edbert D., all being industrious, temperate and respected young men and women.

*Orlando Powers*, a gentleman of keen discernment and practical worth in any community, and who by hard labor has to-day a fine fame with necessary requirements by which farming is made profitable, was born in La Chute, Canada, Aug. 7, 1846. He lived with his parents until about his eighteenth year when he came West and into the States. His parents' names were Orlando and Lydia (Hutchins) Powers, both natives of La Chute. Mr. Powers first came to Black Earth County, and moved from there to Iowa in 1870. Was married in 1869, to Mrs. Lucretia Angel. Their children are Edwin, Alice and Annie. His step-children are Charles and Lizzie Angel. Mr. Powers has a farm of 320 acres; is

cropping about 125 acres, divided somewhat as follows: Sixty-five acres of oats, twenty acres of tame grass, and the greater portion of the remainder of corn. Since the failure of wheat, he has taken the practical view of the situation, which was to raise more hay and keep more live stock, consequently he owns 110 head of cattle, ten horses and 100 hogs. We bespeak for Mr. Powers a successful future.

*George Pringle* was born July 3, 1853, near Detroit, Mich. His parents, William and Elizabeth Pringle, moved from there to Butler County, Ia., in 1855, and bought eighty acres of land from the Government. This was when that section was new, with but few settlers, and very few improvements. He and his brothers, Robert and James, lived at home until their mother died, when the family broke up, and he looked about for himself, moving into Pleasant Grove and working for I. P. Dean by the month. He bought eighty acres on section 28, and married Georgie A. Smith, daughter of H. W. Smith, Pleasant Grove. Their children are George N., who died in infancy, and Allen J.

*David Reams*, one of Pleasant Grove's most practical farmers, was born in Starr County, Ohio, June 7, 1836. His parents were George and Margaret Reams, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Reams was reared on a farm, and has always been an industrious and hard-working man. He lived at home until his marriage, at the age of twenty-seven. He then moved to Fillmore County, Minn. From there he moved to Pleasant Grove Township. In 1862 he married his present wife, to whom he owes much of his present prosperous condition, she being a practical farmer in every sense of the word, and one who will always be a help-mate, a woman whose advice is sound, and who has health and strength to follow up what she advises by a willing and helping hand. Such women are not to be found in the crowded and fashionable marts, but where pluck and common sense is the capital in trade. Mrs. Reams's maiden name was Mary A. Brisco. Mr. Reams is farming at present fifty-five acres upon his own land, and sixty-five acres on land adjacent.

*Henry W. Smith* was born in what was called No. 11, in Somerset County, Maine, Oct. 28, 1831. He was a son of William J. and Susan (Foster) Smith, both natives of Maine. Their family consisted of five children, three boys and two girls, of which Henry A. was the eldest. He lived at home until his twenty-second year, and in his twenty-third year he purchased a farm in Sebec, Piscataquis County, and farmed it about four years. About this time

he married Plooma Cushing, of Atkinson, same county, her parents being James and Nancy Cushing; their family consisted of nine daughters and two sons. Mr. Smith, after selling his farm in Sebec, owned several others and a mill, and in November, 1865, came to Iowa and bought a farm of Charles Bowman, the farm he has since resided on, it being the northeast of section 28. The next June he moved his family out, consisting of wife and two children—Georgie A. and Hattie A. When he arrived it was as nature had made it. Taking it from the wild prairie, he at first built a board shanty on the center of the north lines, in which he lived two years. It was in this that the first meeting of the township was held, conducted by a man named Swan, a local preacher of Waverly, having services off and on for six months. After this, in 1867, Geo. R. Edmunds, a local preacher from Charles City, preached every two or three weeks, until School-house No. 5 was built, when the meetings were held there. It was through the efforts of Mr. Smith and a Mr. Gilman, each of them pledging \$25, and raising the same amount, that Elder Lee, of the Upper Iowa Conference, included them in the Rockford work, supplying them with regular services through Rockford's preacher, Rev. Mr. Rowen. Thus to Mr. Smith we give the credit of establishing regular gospel services in Pleasant Grove Township. Mr. Smith made the first assessment in the township, being Assessor the first two years. Has held several other offices in the township. Is a member of the order of A. F. & A. M., being charter member of Alpha Lodge, of Greene. We find Mr. Smith with fine stock and a practical idea of farming. He has erected a large and commodious New England-like barn, has the best pumping-milling apparatus in the township, the well being seventy-five feet deep, and contemplates putting up a new house the coming year. His first wife died Dec. 17, 1874. He married Miss E. J. Brisco, a daughter of John Brisco (see sketch), an early pioneer, Dec. 25, 1876. To Mr. Smith we are indebted for many facts of interest pertaining to Floyd County. He has on his home place sixty acres of corn, thirty of oats, nine of wheat, and will have about fifty tons of hay. He has fifteen cows, thirty-two young stock, eight horses and seventy-five hogs.

*T. W. Waller* was born Feb. 14, 1842, in Kentucky. His parents were Theophilus and Nancy Waller; he was the youngest of five children. His father died four months previous to his birth, and his mother and family moved to Rock County, Wis., where they lived for fifteen years. He received a common-school education



and has worked on the farm all but two years; when twenty-three years of age, he tried his fortune in the silver belt of Virginia City, going there mostly for his health; he gained much experience, and from there he moved to Floyd County, about 1870, bringing his mother with him, and bought one quarter of section 22. He was married in May, 1875, to Sarah J. Jackson, of Canada, and has two children—Jessie M. and Marshall W. He has in crops about thirty acres of oats, forty-five of corn and forty of wheat. Has fifty hogs, twenty-five cattle and seven horses.

*Daniel B. Wood* was born in Eastern Tennessee, Monroe County, March 12, 1828. He was the youngest son of Joseph and Lydia (Norman) Woods, and of a family of thirteen children. When about twelve or fourteen years old the family moved to Callaway County, Mo., living there six years, moving into Jo Daviess County, Ill. During the latter years of his minority he worked by the month for neighboring farmers. In 1853, he married Maria Chouder, of Magoffin County, Ky., buying a farm and living there till 1855, when he moved into the territory, now section 5, Pleasant Grove Township, Ia. In 1849 he went to what is now West Union, Fayette County, before Floyd had been visited by settlers, and made claim to a quarter section of land. He erected a log house in a day and a half, Hoosier style, with neither nail nor bricks, and moved in, covering the log with a canvas until he had hay for it. He lived in that two years, when the Indian war-whoop getting too near for pleasant dreams, and safety of wife and children, he with other earlier settlers moved back to Illinois, staying there through that year. He moved back in 1859 and has since been a citizen. He has seen this country grow from a prairie to the present improved State; from driving to Waverly with grist, to grinding by the modern windmill. He has ever been a hard-working citizen, and has reared a family of thirteen children, as follows: Sarah Jane and Wm. H., born in Illinois; Mary Elizabeth, Geo. W., L. Augusta, Grace Ellen, Celestia, Viola, Jessie, Norman C., Ernest J., Archibald D., and Carrie M., born in Pleasant Grove Township. The first school ever kept in the township was in his old house, he having built a frame one. It was kept by Miss Grace Davidson, of Charles City, in 1862. She had ten scholars. School was held here three or four years. The following are some of the teachers: Misses L. Conlee, Nellie Conlee, and Miriam K. Bliss, of Charles City. He has 158 acres of land, fifteen or twenty cattle, eight horses and thirty hogs.

## RIVERTON TOWNSHIP.

### ORGANIC.

It was ordered March 2, 1857, that township 94 north, range 15 west; and the east half of township 94 north, range 16, and sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36 in township 95 north, range 15 west, be detached from St. Charles Township, and made into one township. Thus was formed, and christened, Riverton. On Dec. 31, 1858, sections 28 and 33, in township 95 north, of range 15, was ordered to be detached from St. Charles Township and attached to Riverton. These two sections were set back to St. Charles Township, Jan. 3, 1859, but were again attached to Riverton and detached from St. Charles, Feb. 4, 1860. At the June session, 1867, of the County Board of Supervisors, in a petition from the inhabitants of congressional township 94 N., R. 16 W., the east half of said township was detached from Riverton, forming that proportion of what is now Pleasant Grove Township. Thus Riverton exists to-day.

### TYPOGRAPHY.

Riverton Township is quite varied in its typographical features, having hill, prairie, timber and quarry. It embraces a surface of forty-two square miles. The Cedar River takes a serpentine course from northwest to southeast, through sections 28, 34, of 95 N., 15 W., and sections 2, 1 and 12 of 34 N., 15 W. These sections are all quite heavily wooded with oak, maple and other trees common to these Iowa valleys. There are numerous other small creeks and runs, nearly every section being touched. The southeast and southern sections generally are prairie, and the soil throughout the township is fine for corn and oats.

### FIRST SETTLERS.

Undoubtedly the first settlers of this territory, now Riverton Township, were the Parishes, Warburtons, Wilcoxes, Clarks, Dyases, Ripleys, Gibsons and Perrys; these we know of, but of others we have no means of ascertaining, many of them having been called to join the immortal throng "over the river," in the bright realms  
(867)

of eternal life. Many others moved from the county to find homes in other counties and other States. They came with only moderate means; they had to clear the forest, for timber was sought in preference to open, bleak prairie; they had to erect their cabins before a thought could be given to the cultivation of the land so cleared, and even afterward, when the fertile soil began to yield bountiful fruits, many deemed it wise to sell their squatter's claim to other immigrants, and push still farther westward, oftentimes repeating a settlement followed by a sale, until one family could boast of being the first colonists in many townships, and, perhaps, States. Such claims have we found in Riverton and Pleasant Grove. The date of the earliest settlers was 1852 and the spring of 1853, Joel Parish and the Warburtons coming in 1852, the former moving into the edge of the county, building him a bark shanty in which he lived the following winter. The Warburtons—two brothers—came the next spring, built a log house, in which, afterward, the first school was taught. They moved from the township just prior to its organization, one of them at present being a citizen of Rock Grove, "Uncle" Samuel Clark buying the property. The Ripleys, who have figured in the history of this county, came formerly from Gallia County, Ohio. Col. David Ripley, Judge for Floyd County, Joseph Ripley, and their children, are too well known to make additional mention; their biographies appear in their proper place. Sanford Ripley moved first to Nashua in 1853, moving within the county in 1854. Joseph Ripley moved Sanford and family from Ohio, and the next year moved West with his family onto the farm Mr. Rowen now lives on. The following year he moved into 94 N., 16 W., where he built the log house in the grove in which all early settlers were welcome to stay until they had their cabin or shanty finished. About this time the Wilcoxes, the Stevens, Dyases, Eatons, and many others came from Gallia County to Floyd. The early life of these men tended to thoroughly test the "true inwardness" of their natures, and among them sincere, warm, enduring friendships sprang up—friendships that were, and are yet, cemented by ties of mutual obligations unknown to the present generation; friendships that have grown stronger and brighter with the passing years.

## OFFICIAL AND ELECTIONAL.

The first record found in the town clerk's collection of old official books runs:

STATE OF IOWA, FLOYD COUNTY.

RIVERTON TOWNSHIP, April 5, 1858.

At the April election the following men were duly elected to office, to wit: Peter K. Spaulding, Justice of the Peace; Wm. W. Grant, Alfred F. Warden, Constables; James F. Hall, C. H. Young, G. W. Bean, Trustees; David J. Horton, Township Clerk.

## FIRST ROAD DISTRICTS.

At a regular meeting of the trustees, the first Monday of October, 1859, they ordered the township to be divided into four road districts, comprising territory as follows:

*Road District No. 1* comprised sections 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, of 94 north, range 15 west, and sections 1, 2, 3, of 94 north, 15 west, aggregating eleven square miles of territory.

*District No. 2* comprised sections 4, 5, east half of 6, east half of 7, sections 8, 9, 16, 17, east half of 18, of 94 north, 15 west, making seven and a half square miles.

*District No. 3*, the whole east half of congressional township 94 north, range 16 west, the west half of sections 6, 7 and 18, sections 19, 20, 21, 28 to 33 inclusive, of 94 north, range 15 west, making for one supervisor's charge a territory comprising no less than twenty-six and one-half square miles.

*District No. 4* comprised sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 of 94 north, 15 west, or fifteen square miles. If roads had been repaired Eastern style—ten shovels to one yoke of oxen, and whisky between loads—it is doubtful if the cart would have moved from one end of the district to the other road-working week, unless, as in some Eastern corn-fields, a jug was at each end and one in the middle, for magnets. But the good people of Riverton have ever been a temperate community.

The fall election of 1859 was held at the house of Leonard Bell, Oct. 11. The following ticket was recorded elected: Trustees, Edward Hall, John Lapcell, C. H. Young; Township Clerk, Peter K. Spaulding; Assessor, James M. Howard; Constables, N. F. Warden, Washington Young; Supervisors of Roads—District 1, G. H. Clark; District 2, S. M. Blood; District 3, D. McMurray; District 4, F. B. Dowd.

On road-work the following rates were allowed per day in 1860: Men, \$1; team, \$1; wagon, plow and scraper, fifty cents.

## CEMETERIES.

The first cemetery was set aside in 1861, by Mr. Samuel Clark, who was the first to be buried there. It is situated on the south boundary line of section 34, 95 north, range 15 west. The other cemetery is located in the extreme southwest corner of section 20, 94 north, range 15 west.

## CHURCH MATTERS.

The Riverton Methodist Episcopal church was organized as a class by Wm. Gibson, under Dr. N. Holmes, then the presiding elder for this district. It was formed in the Thompson school-house July, 1866. The original membership of the class was about ten, four of whom are yet living, they being Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Thompson, David Beck and wife. They still worship in the same school-house, having services every alternate Sunday, E. L. Thorpe being their present pastor (1882), with an average attendance of about thirty. There is a Sabbath-school connected with the church, of about the same attendance. We append a list of officers and teachers: James Hilliard, Superintendent; David Beck, Assistant Superintendent; Edgar Wilcox, Secretary; Stephen Bucklin, Treasurer; Teachers—James Hilliard, old folks' Bible class; Hannah Beck, girls' Bible class; Dora Beck, infant class; A. B. Scofield, boys' Bible class.

The Wesleyan Methodists also have meetings in No. 3, with a Sabbath-school, and an average attendance of about the same number as the Methodist Episcopal church.

The first marriage was that of Aldice Grow and Candis Norton, step-daughter of Sanford Ripley, in December, 1859.

The first school was in the winter of 1857-'58, in the log house built by the Warburtons, and afterward owned by "Uncle Samuel" Clark. The teacher was Miss Julia Ripley, daughter of Col. David Ripley, County Judge of Floyd County. After the sub-district had been formed, many schools were kept in the cabins of the residents, until a school-house appropriation had been voted.

In 1865 the following persons were Sub-directors: Sanford Ripley, District 1; D. J. Horton, District 2; James M. Howard, District 3; John Brown, District 4; Peter O'Donnell, District 5; David Dyas, District 6.

The first school-house was finished October, 1861, A. B. Scofield and Jacob Coler taking the contract. The first term taught within its walls was by Laura Warn. It originally stood on section 33,

but has been moved east 160 rods, to the northwest corner section 34-95 N., 15. W.

To-day there are eleven districts, with as many houses, each district being independent of the other. Following is a list of the enrollment of last spring term, average daily attendance and name of teacher. Of course, this term is the smallest of the year.

DISTRICT NUMBER.	ENROLLMENT.	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.	TEACHER.
District Number 1....	18	15	Hattie McCune.
District Number 2....	13	11.5	Emma M. Johnson.
District Number 3....	14	12.3	Emmagine Porter.
District Number 4....	19	10	Mattie G. Blake.
District Number 5....	15	12	Kittie Cameron.
District Number 6....	19	16.7	Nellie M. Hine.
District Number 7....	21	20.	Ida Weeks.
District Number 8....	18	16.5	J. P. Boyce.
District Number 9....	22	18	Besta D. Smith.
District Number 10....	12	10.8	Sarah Feeney.
District Number 11....	20	15	Mary Gray.

#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A PETITION.

A petition, headed by A. W. Preston and signed by sixty-six others, praying the trustees of the township to call a special election to submit to the voters the question of raising a five per cent. tax to be levied on the taxable property, as assistance to the Milwaukee & Nashua Railroad, was the means of a special township meeting. A long notice, embodying the facts of the case, was issued, calling the special election, and headed as "A Railroad Tax." The funny part comes in that the vote stood: for the tax, none; against the tax, ninety-one. And so died the railroad with the vote.

*Carr's Mills.*—In the year 1867 Messrs. George Carr and James Hopkin erected a steam saw-mill on section 35 of this township, which ran successfully for about eleven years, when it closed. The saw was a circular one, and the capacity of the mill was about 16,000 feet per twenty-four hours. One log, black walnut, turned out 6,000 feet of lumber, which at that time was worth \$60 a thousand feet. Walnut is worth much more than that at the present day. The timber sawed at this mill was altogether of the hard-wood kinds. The most remarkable thing we can say about the history of this mill is that, in connection with the building and running of it, no one was ever killed or seriously hurt. For the last several years Mr. Carr, who had bought out his partner, ran the mill alone.

*Ripley's Steam Saw-mill.*—This is located on section 34, township 9S, 15E, and was built by Sanford Ripley in December, 1855. It is still running—a rarely long period for a mill of this character to be kept in working order.

*Scofield's Sorghum Mill* was built on its present site about four years ago—a “Skinner mill,” probably the largest sorghum mill in the county, with a capacity of 125 gallons per day. It is a mill of four horse-power.

On section 15 is another mill, owned by W. H. Cheney, and run by his son. It is a mill of two horse-power. Considerable sorghum is raised in the township, and therefore the two mills, in their season, have enough to keep them busy, as the cider-mills of New England do in the fall.

#### CREAMERIES.

As the wheat crops failed, and settlers were looking about for a new departure whereby a dollar could be earned, it became apparent from its peculiar situation and its land, and the numerous water courses, creeks and springs, and its adaptation to grass, that it was to be a dairy region. And as such it takes high rank, holding a leading position among the butter-producing townships of the county, and a reputation in the great butter market of the East. There are two creameries within the township limits, Riverton and Crystal Spring.

*Riverton Creamery* is located on section 14; was established April 3, 1882, by a joint stock company of farmers, with a capital of \$1,000, divided into 100 shares. The officers are: S. S. Waterbury, President; Fred C. Danforth, Vice-President; William Gibson, Secretary; Wm. H. Perry and A. G. Buder, Directors. A dividend of eight per cent. is guaranteed. The capacity of the creamery is 1,000 pounds per day, is run by steam-power, and all other modern conveniences known to dairymen. In August, 1882, they made over four tons of the best butter. Operations beginning as late as last April, up to July 28 the company had paid \$4,900 for cream alone. It is situated on land owned by the president, who donates the use of the windmill, well, brick building, and the grounds for ten years. Truly a man of public spirit.

*Crystal Spring Creamery* is located on the southwest quarter of section 27. The proprietors are French & Curtis. Was established in 1877, by the “pioneer” creamery man of Floyd County. He began in a small way, until now the creamery uses an Acme

upright engine in churning, and makes from 1,000 to 2,000 pounds a week. The most of its butter is shipped direct to New York and Chicago markets.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Stephen Bucklin* was born in Clinton County, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1828, where he lived till 1868, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., and settled on section 5, Riverton Township. He has 127 acres of good land. He was married Aug. 13, 1855, to Ellen Hill, a native of Vermont, born in September, 1837. They have six children—Hollis, born Sept. 21, 1856; Elva, March 20, 1862; Louis, Aug. 9, 1864; Libby, April 20, 1866; Lowell, Aug. 23, 1868; Jennie May, Aug. 2, 1873. Mr. Bucklin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically, he is a Republican. He has held the office of Road Supervisor, and has been a School Director for ten years.

*Deodat Butler*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 16, Riverton Township, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., Oct. 22, 1821. He is a son of Amos Butler, who died when he was five years old, and he went to live with his grandfather, Deodat Jeffers. He went to Dodge County, Wis., in 1851, where he was engaged in farming till 1867, when he came to this county and settled on his present farm, where he owns 180 acres. He was married July 2, 1846, to Alvira Meade. They have seven children—Clarinda, Mary, Myron, Byron, William, James and Warren. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was County Supervisor two years, and Township Trustee several years.

*L. A. Butler* was born in Canada, March 6, 1823, where he lived till 1840, when he came to the United States, to New York, where he lived four years; then went to Wisconsin where he lived twenty years, engaged in farming most of the time. In 1850 he went to California; crossed the plains, and remained there three years, when he returned to Wisconsin. In 1864 he came to Floyd County, Iowa, and settled on section 12, Riverton Township, where he has 197 acres of good well-improved land. He was married in 1848 to Rachel Roderick. They had three children—Adell, Alfred and Sherman. Mrs. Butler died in 1856, and in 1857 Mr. Butler married Matilda Carter, a native of Canada, born in 1833. They have four children—Sophronia, Leo, Ida and Berta. Mr. Butler is a Republican.



*George Carr*, son of Joseph Carr, a native of France, was born in Franklin County, N. Y., Nov. 15, 1825. He went to Chicago in 1844, and in a few days to Wisconsin, where he remained till 1847, when he returned to Chicago. He was engaged in building and contracting there till 1855, when he came to Dubuque, Iowa, and the same fall went to Bremer County. He built the first steam saw-mill in Waverly, and followed lumbering there till 1866, when he came to this township. He built a steam saw-mill on his land, and ran it eleven years. He sawed one walnut tree, cut on Captain Foster's land, on section 27, which made over 6,000 feet of lumber. He did a large business in the saw-mill. He was married Aug. 27, 1851, to Frances Stover. Of their eleven children but eight are living—Ida (Mrs. I. A. Weeks), Florence V. (Mrs. M. Stevens), Frank L., George C., Robert E., Mary (Mrs. J. Hopkins), and Cecil. He has been Supervisor several years; was a member of the School Board several years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has been W. M. for the past seven years.

*W. B. Carter* was born in Ohio, July, 1828. He left there March, 1853, and came via the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, to Muscatine, thence across the country to Floyd County, arriving here May 4. He settled on section 3, range 15 west, Riverton Township. He has now 400 acres of good well-improved land. He is a Baptist, and in his political views a Republican. He was married in 1848 to Phoebe Ripley, who was born in Ohio in 1826. They have eight children—Marion, Alice, Augustus B., Julia, Olive, David, Lorenzo D., and William. David is at home with his father. He raises both grain and stock.

*Nathaniel W. Cotton*, born in Prince Edward Island, April 17, 1831, is a son of Joseph Cotton, a native of England, who moved to Summit County, Ohio, in 1838, and to Elkhart County, Ind., in 1843. In 1859 he came to this county, and settled on section 17 Riverton Township, where he still resides, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising; he also gathers cream for the Nashua Creamery. He enlisted in the war for the Union, in Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and served about three years. He was in the battles of Ft. Derissa, Pleasant Hill, Dead Oaks, etc.; was disabled and laid in the hospital several months. He was married June 5, 1856, to Sarah B. Mitchell. They have four children—George W., Luella B., Anna L., and Isaac F. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Fred. C. Danforth*, born in Prairie du Sac, Wis., Mar. 10, 1854, is a son of Calvin Danforth, a native of Vermont, and now a resident of Charles City, Ia. When he was ten years old his parents moved to Beaver Dam, Wis.; to Elkhart, Wis., in 1867, and in the spring of 1869 to Charles City, Ia. He graduated in law at Iowa City in 1875, and took a literary course at Ames Agricultural College, of Iowa. He practiced law in Charles City and Spencer, Ia., till 1880, when he came to the farm on section 15, Riverton Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married in 1878 to Electa Waterbury, daughter of L. P. Waterbury, of this township. They have one child—James A.

*Henry Dodge*, born in Chenango County, N. Y., Sept. 10, 1837, is a son of Martin Dodge (deceased), a native of Vermont. He resided in Rochester, N. Y., till 1854, when he came to Iowa, settling in Chickasaw County, where he lived till 1870, when he came to this county and settled on section 14, Riverton Township. He owns 160 acres, and fifteen of timber land, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He enlisted in the late war in Company H, Fourth Iowa Cavalry. Was in the battles of Old Town Creek, surrender of General Forrest, and several others. He was married in 1872 to Kate E. Poole. They are the parents of five children—Charles E., Herbert, Horace, Loyal J., and Joseph (deceased).

*David Dyas*, born Jan. 14, 1823, is a son of Richard Dyas, a native of Ireland. He came to this county in 1855, where he now owns 337 acres of well-improved land. He resides on section 16, Riverton Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has been Assessor one term; Township Trustee one term; Postmaster and School Director several years. He married Elizabeth Philips. They are the parents of six children, only five living—Susan C., Rachel, William R., Ella V. and Sylvester. One daughter died at the age of seventeen.

*Spencer Faville*, born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1817, is a son of James Faville, also a native of New York. He received his education in the common schools of his native State. He learned the tanner and currier's trade when a boy, and worked at it fourteen years in New York State. In 1845 he went to Jefferson County, Wis., where he was engaged in a flour-mill and the lumber business, and part of the time in farming. In 1863 he came to Nashua, Ia., and in 1867 to this county, where he is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 24, Riverton Town-

ship. He owns 160 acres and some timber land in Chickasaw County. He was married in 1839 to Laura Ostrom. They have two children. Ostrom married Mary Baker, and has two children—Baker and Spencer. Mary married George J. Clapp, who died Jan. 9, 1878, leaving three children—Olivia A., Rush F. and Laura M. Mr. Faville was County Supervisor of Chickasaw County and is now Township Trustee.

*Hon. Alvin L. Flint*, born in Orange County, Vt., May 12, 1822, is a son of Phineas Flint, and brother of Hon. W. L. Flint, of this township. He was educated in the common schools of his native State, and resided on a farm till 1843, when he went to Jackson County, Mich. In 1845 he went to Racine County, Wis.; in 1850 to Green Lake County, Wis.; in 1860 came to Nashua, Ia., and to this county in 1874, where he owns 240 acres of land. He resides on section 13, Riverton Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising, making the breeding of Devonshire cattle a specialty. He also owns 480 acres in Butler County. He was married June 10, 1847, to Sarah Vanvalin, a daughter of David Vanvalin, born in Greene County, N. Y., on the Hudson. Mr. Flint was a Representative in Wisconsin in 1861, and has been Mayor of Nashua two years.

*Hon. Waldo S. Flint*, born in Orange County, Vt., Feb. 23, 1820, is a son of Phineas, a native of Hampton, Conn., a son of Phineas, son of Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel, son of Joseph, son of Thomas, the emigrant ancestor who came from Wales and settled at Salem, Mass. The old homestead is still in the hands of his descendants, the Flints, and has never been out of their possession. The deed was witnessed by Giles Corey, who afterward became a victim of the witchcraft delusion in 1692, and was pressed to death at the age of eighty years. Waldo S. Flint went to Batavia, N. Y., in 1836; to Jackson, Mich., in 1841; to Racine County, Wis., in 1843; to Green Lake County, Wis., in 1850, and came to this county in 1875. He held offices of trust in Wisconsin, being a member of both houses of the Legislature. He was elected a Representative for Floyd County in the fall of 1881. He owns 400 acres of well-improved land, and fifteen acres of timber, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married May 19, 1853, to Sarah J. Rosebrooks, of Onondaga County, N. Y. Of their five children, only three are living—Edwin W., Charles M., and Carrie. Charles is married, and living in Nashua.

*Samuel D. French*, born in Herkimer County, N. Y., May 30, 1842, is a son of Luther L. French, a native of Connecticut. He received his education in the common schools and at Whitestown Seminary, in Whitesboro, Oneida County, N. Y. He enlisted in the late war in Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-first New York Volunteer Infantry. Was transferred by the War Department to the United States Signal Corps, attached to the Potomac Army, and was employed in both the Telegraph and Flag departments of the corps. Was discharged in June, 1865. He came to Iowa in 1867, and in April, 1869, was married to Elvina Kinney, a daughter of Hon. Joseph Kinney, a native of Vermont, and one of the early settlers in the Territory of Wisconsin, and a Representative in the Legislature of that State two terms. Immediately after marriage Mr. French settled on his farm in Riverton, which he now occupies. On his farm is a rich bed of peat, covering several acres, and averaging six feet in depth. When dry it can be used for fuel without the use of wood. He also has a never-failing spring of pure water near his house, and in 1878, by utilizing the water therefrom, began the manufacture of creamery butter, and established what is known as Crystal Spring Creamery, which has since been in operation.

*Rev. William Gibson*, born in Essex County, N. Y., Dec. 9, 1826, is a son of John Gibson, a native of Ireland, who came to America when a young man. William Gibson received his education in the select school of Prof. Eli Maynard, in Clinton County, N. Y., and was licensed to preach by the Methodist Episcopal church July 19, 1860. He enlisted in the war for the Union in Company E, Second New York, Harris Light Cavalry; was in the battles of Cedar Creek, Waynesboro, Five Forks, Harper's Farm, Appomattox and others; was Quartermaster Sergeant at the last-named place. He was injured during the war, and is a pensioner. Was discharged June 5, 1865. In November, 1865, he came to this county and settled on his present farm on section 13, Riverton Township. He was an itinerant minister in Iowa seven years, under the direction of the presiding elder; was on Horton Circuit one year; organized a class in Riverton Township in 1866; at Syracuse one year; Horton Circuit two years, and three years at Plainfield, where he built up a large church, it being one of the grandest and strongest churches in this locality. He was ordained Deacon by D. W. Clark, at Independence, Sept. 26, 1869, and Elder Oct. 5, 1872, at Cedar Rapids, by Bishop Andrews. After

leaving Plainfield he preached three years in Riverton, and has preached at intervals since. He was married May 29, 1848, to Hannah McKee. They are the parents of ten children—John H., Katie M., William T., Freemont, George A., Imogene, Sadie F., Ida M., Frank E., and C. Eddie.

*James M. Howard* was born Jan. 1, 1817, in Kentucky; when one year old he was brought with the family to Lawrence County, Ind., where he resided until seventeen years of age; he next moved to Cook County, Ill., where he lived until 1852, except two years in Waukegan, Ill., still following farming. Next he went to California, crossing the plains with oxen, being five months on the road. In 1856 he returned, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and settled in Nashua, Chickasaw County, Iowa, preparing in the fall to build a house, which he erected and finished the following spring. His present farm is on section 3, this township, where he owns 770 acres of good land, and makes a specialty of raising corn, oats and live-stock. March 6, 1845, Mr. Howard married Lucinda Carron, who was born in Greenbrier County, Va., April 21, 1828. They have three children now living, namely: Mary V., born in Eldorado County, Cal., in June, 1853, and is now the wife of Andrew Smith; Elbert W., who was born in Sacramento County, Cal., March 16, 1856; and Clara A., born in this township March 29, 1862. Mr. Howard belongs to the Wesleyan Methodist church and in his political views is independent.

*Robert J. Huie*, born in Ogle County, Ill., June 5, 1840, is a son of David Huie, a native of Scotland, born in 1811. He came to this county in 1866, and settled on section 28, Riverton Township, where he still resides. He enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in August, 1862, in Company E, Ninety-second Illinois Infantry; the last two years they were mounted. He was in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Aiken, Averysboro, Resaca and many smaller ones, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He enlisted as private, and at the first camp was appointed Fifth Sergeant; in 1864 was made Orderly Sergeant, and in the spring of 1865 was commissioned and mustered in as Second Lieutenant. He was married in 1862 to Julia A. Hammond. They have five children—Nellie M., Anna L., Jessie E., Marshall S., and Recina K. He has been Assessor six years, and Justice of the Peace five years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Charles Kilbourne*, born in Otsego, N. Y., Aug. 10, 1809, is a son of Giles Kilbourne, a native of Berkshire County, Mass., who

died in New York State at the age of ninety-three. He resided on a farm till thirteen years of age, when he went to Homer, N. Y., and clerked in a store for five years. He then went to Cortland Academy and prepared for Hamilton College, near Utica, graduating from there in 1833, with high honors. He taught five years in Vernon Academy, Oneida County, and Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., in the meantime studying law. He was admitted to the bar in 1839, and practiced in Vernon, N. Y., five years. In 1844 he went to Milwaukee, Wis., and soon after settled on Fox River, near Princeton, Wis., where he was engaged in the lumber business, and then in farming till 1863, when he came to this county. In 1867 he was a member of the Wisconsin Legislature; was also Justice of the Peace in Wisconsin several years, and is now Justice of the Peace here. He was married in 1839 to Mary L. Sayles. They are the parents of seven children—Henry L. (surgeon in the United States army the past twenty years); Charles, died in the late war; Frederick A., Edward L., Arthur B., Louis D. and Everett L. Mrs. Kilbourne is a member of the Congregational church.

*Julius M. Nevins*, son of Russell M. Nevins, was born in Washington County, Vt., Dec. 20, 1826. In 1837 his parents moved to Milwaukee, Wis., and to Jefferson County, Wis., in 1838. In 1849 he went to California with an ox team, and came back in the fall of 1851. He traveled through Washington Territory. In 1859 he went again to California, and in 1861 returned to Wisconsin. In 1864 he came to this county, and in January, 1873, went to California, returning the same spring. In 1876 he went again to California, taking his wife and eldest daughter, and remained one year. He was married May 29, 1847, to Elizabeth King, of Canada, a daughter of John King, a native of England. They are the parents of seven children—Marilla, Adella, Matilda, Almeda, Sarah and Viola. A son died in infancy.

*John Noble*, son of Jacob B. Noble, was born near Cornwall, Canada West, Sept. 18, 1833. In 1846 he went with his parents to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and in 1855 came to Chickasaw County, Ia., and to this county in 1864, where he is engaged as a farmer and stock-raiser. He owns 235 acres of well-improved land. He was married Dec. 29, 1861, to Zelia A. Hall, daughter of E. C. Hall, who came to this county in 1859. They have one child—George E., born May 25, 1868. He has been Constable and Township Trustee six or seven years.

*Solomon H. Noble*, born in Cornwall, Canada West, Nov. 20, 1835, is a son of Jacob B., also a native of Canada. His education was limited. In 1846 he went with his parents to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and in December, 1855, came to Iowa, going first to Chickasaw County, and in 1863 came to this county. He resides on section 24, Riverton Township, and owns 240 acres; is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married Jan. 22, 1864, to Belinda Helms. They have five children—Marshall H., Ada N., Charles E., Katie M. and Cornelia. He has been Constable here twelve years.

*Daniel D. Perry* was born in Bergen County, N. J., Sept. 19, 1822. In 1849 he came West and located in Jefferson County, Wis., and in 1875 he came to this county. He was a miller in the East, but since coming West has followed farming. He resides on section 14, Riverton Township, owns 418 acres, and is engaged both in farming and stock-raising. He was married in April, 1841, to Sarah Haring. They are the parents of six children—William H., Maria C., Catharine C., Sarah E. and Susan J. They lost one daughter also named Susan J.

*William H. Perry*, born in New Jersey, June 6, 1843, is a son of Daniel D. Perry, and came with him to Wisconsin in 1849. He came to this county in 1873, where he is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married June 6, 1863, to Martha J. Balser. Of their three children, only two are living—Ida M. and Hattie B. One daughter, Ina B., died at the age of sixteen months. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

*Sanford Ripley* was born in Gallia County, Ohio, July 27, 1829. He left there in March, 1853, and came, via the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, to Muscatine, Iowa; from there with a two-horse team, in company with others, to Red Oak Grove, Cedar County, Iowa; from there to where Nashua now is, June 4, 1853. His father built the first house inside the town of Nashua. Geo. H. Clark built one a little outside in 1851 or 1852. In the fall of 1854, Mr. Ripley moved to the place where he still lives, section 34, range 15, Riverton Township. Snow being knee-deep, and no house there, the family camped under the wagon till he could build a cabin. He has 250 acres of well-improved land. He was married in 1846 to Susan Norton, *nee* Bumgartner, who was born in Gallia County, O., in January, 1820. They have three children—Esther, born Dec. 31, 1855; Lovina, Oct. 6, 1860; Maria, June 14, 1863. He ran out with a compass and staked the first road from

Nashua, going in a northwesterly direction till he struck section 1, range 94-17, which is now Union Township. This continued to be the regular traveled road for many years. Politically he is a Republican.

*A. B. Scofield* was born in Clearfield County, Pa., Oct. 28, 1835. His father moved from there to Rock County, Wis. He lived with his father till he was twenty-three years old, when he came to Nashua, Chickasaw County, Ia., and taught a writing-school one winter; worked in a fanning-mill factory the following summer, and taught in the public school in the fall and winter. He built what is known as the Thompson School-house, in Riverton Township. In October, 1860, he was married to Sarah Beck, born in Ohio, in 1842. They had four children—Emma Jane, born in 1862, and died at the age of two months; Irwin J., born in May, 1866; Mary L., born in November, 1868; W. A., 1869. Mr. Scofield has been Justice of the Peace for four years; has been Director and Secretary of the School Board, and has held various township offices. Politically he is a Republican.

*Solomon M. Stevens*, son of Solomon K. Stevens, a native of Vermont, was born in Cortland County, N. Y., Jan. 1, 1851. In 1855 he came West with his parents and settled in Bureau County, Ill., and in March, 1871, came to this county. He resides on section 16, Riverton Township, where he owns forty acres; he also owns eighty acres on section 21, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married in 1876 to Maria Mitchell, a daughter of Moses Mitchell, now of Chickasaw County. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Riverton.

*Scofield S. Waterbury*, born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., Dec. 7, 1833, is a son of Shadrach Waterbury, a native of Connecticut, who died when Scofield was four years old. In 1850 he went to Jefferson County, Wis., locating in the ancient city of Aztalan, where he remained till the spring of 1864 when he came to this county, and located on section 24, Riverton Township. He owns 345 acres, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising, breeding short-horned cattle and Norman horses. In 1874 he imported French Monarch, a fine Percheron of 1,800 pounds weight. He also has a colt of his three years old that weighs 1,400 pounds. He was married in November, 1856, to Annie E. Willis. They are the parents of six children—Electa A., Lizzie D., May E., John P., E. Belle, and Willis. Their eldest daughter is the wife of F. C. Danforth.



*G. B. Waterman* was born in Berkshire County, Mass., where he lived till he was four years old, when he moved to Oneida County, N. Y., and lived twenty-five years. In 1869 he came to Floyd County, Ia., and settled on section 28. He has 120 acres of good, well-improved land. He raises stock, and makes a specialty of hogs. He sells his cream to the Charles City Creamery. He was married in 1869 to Sarah M. Bellows. She was born in Massachusetts in 1852. They have seven children.

*A. F. Worden* was born in New York, Jan. 28, 1828, where he lived till he was four years old, when he went to Michigan and remained twenty-three years. In the fall of 1855 he came to Floyd County, Iowa, and settled on section 10, Riverton Township. He has 120 acres of good well-improved land. He has always been a farmer. He was married Jan. 1, 1854, to Elizabeth Jane Cleland, a native of Washtenaw County, Mich., born March 6, 1832. She died July 24, 1882. They had one adopted child—Albert G., born Feb. 6, 1872. Mr. Worden is a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Politically is a Republican. He was the first Constable elected in the township.



## ROCKFORD TOWNSHIP.

The township of Rockford was named from the village of Rockford, the village having been started and named a year before the township was erected. Rockford is bounded on the north by Rock Grove, on the east by Ulster, on the south by Scott, and on the west by Cerro Gordo County. It was settled at a comparatively early day, and with people mostly from the Eastern States. There are very few foreigners here. The population of the township is now about 1,400.

### ORGANIC.

The area now known as Rockford Township was formerly included in Union Township. A warrant was issued by A. L. Collins, County Judge, March 2, 1857, defining the limits of Rockford Township to be the same as those of the congressional township 95, ranges 17 and 18, and calling for an election April 6, 1857. The election was held at the house of Ransom Knapp, with A. H. Bayley, B. P. Franklin, and Horace W. Fields as Judges of Election. The officers chosen at this election were as follows: Trustees, L. G. Hiscox and Henry R. May; Clerk, Horace Stearns; Justices, William Hutchler and J. N. Dennis; Road Supervisors, L. G. Buck, Henry Wadey, George Wadey and George Wise.

In 1858 a portion of township 95, range 17, was set off for the organization of Ulster Township, and in 1861 the remainder of that congressional township was set off to Ulster. At this latter time, also, six sections on the southern part of township 95, range 18, were set off and annexed to Scott, and twelve sections from the southern part of township 96, range 18, were added to Rockford Township on the north.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In August, 1851, John Grace built a small cabin and made a claim on section 10, township 95, range 18, on the south bank of the Shell Rock River, and near the northwest corner of the present town site of Rockford. The same year he took up a claim on what is now known as the Buck farm, and built a cabin there. He

was the first actual settler in the township. During this same year Jacob Beelar also made a claim on sections 8 and 9, on the farm afterward owned by John Dumbolton, but subsequently abandoned it and took up a claim in Union Township. A Mr. Brannon then took the Beelar claim, and broke eighteen or twenty acres in 1852. Grace also broke a small tract the same season, which was probably the first breaking done in the township. In 1853 Fleming De Witt and several sons bought out the Brannon, Farlow and Grace claims, and also laid claim to large tracts of land between Shell Rock and Linn rivers, covering what afterward became Wyatt's, Dumbolton's, Dean's and Grace's groves. In 1853 Lee Furlow claimed the larger part of the groves southeast of Rockford, afterward owned by Green & Stearns. B. F. Adams came in 1853, and built a cabin on the west side of Linn River, on section 5, and broke fifteen or eighteen acres. This was afterward known as the Ruggles farm. Ambrose Baker built a cabin the same year, on what was afterward A. L. Carman's farm, and in the year following broke ten acres.

In 1854 W. J. Green and H. Stearns bought the Farlow claim of Isaac and David De Witt for \$30. Each built a cabin and opened up a farm. George Breutner, L. G. Buck and O. J. Dean came in 1854 and bought claims of the De Witts. F. De Witt built a log house near the little cabin of John Grace. This was occupied by J. C. Walker, who broke ten acres near where the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota Railroad depot now stands.

In 1855 Major Rice built a cabin near Wyatt's grove, and opened up a farm. R. O. Horr laid claim to that portion of the present town plat between the Wyatt House and the Shell Rock River, and the same year sold to R. N. Mathews. Mr. Mathews also bought Gideon White's claim and moved on it. R. O. Mathews made a claim, which afterward became a part of S. H. Cutler's farm. David Ripley claimed the western portion of the town plat. Daniel Mahoney bought a claim north of the Buck place, built a cabin, and brought his family the following year. D. M. Bemas made a claim south of town.

In 1856 John Platt, S. P. Brittain, George Wyatt and Willard Bowdoin bought the town site of Rockford. Further particulars are given below in the sketch of the village of Rockford.

## FIRST.

The first sermon in Rockford Township was preached by Rev. John Ball, in John Ferguson's store, in June, 1856. The other early preachers were, Revs. Hiscox, Saxby, Holbrook and La Due, all of whom came about 1857 or 1858. There are now two churches in the township, both of which are in Rockford Village.

The first school-house was built in 1857, of oak boards, and was 16 x 24. It was built without battening, and with slab seats. This was built by contribution, and was used for church services, as well as for a school-house. The second school-house in this district was built of stone, in the winter of 1857 and 1858. It tumbled down when the frost went out. The third was built of stone, in 1859, and was 26 x 40; twelve feet between joints. This was for several years the best school-house in the county. The fourth school-house was built of wood in 1873. It was 50 x 50, contained four rooms, and cost \$8,000.

The first school was taught by Mrs. J. N. Dennis, in 1857. Miss Olementine McEwen taught in the fall of the same year. The first school district in the township was known as sub-district No. 4, of Union Township. The first district election was held at the house of H. Stearns, June 15, 1857, with B. P. Franklin as President, and H. Stearns, Secretary.

The first marriage license issued in the township was to Wesley Ames and Miss Cassidy, both of Rockford Township; and this was also the first in the county.

The first death was that of Mrs. De Witt, in 1853 or 1854.

The first birth is thought to have been that of Iola Blanchard.

## STOCK.

In 1856 Z. M. Knapp brought to this township seven head of thoroughbred cattle, one of which was a bull sired by an imported Devon, owned by ex-Governor Bibb, of Illinois. Soon after, S. P. Brittain brought in about twenty head of cattle from Illinois, many of them thoroughbreds, and other grades. Four or five years after this, D. M. Bemas also brought from New York some twenty or thirty head of thoroughbreds. Such importations of choice stock did not fail to improve the stock generally throughout the western side of the county.

## RAILROAD.

The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota Railroad was finished to Rockford, Oct. 13, 1871. The people of the township aided largely in its construction. A tax of five per cent. was voted upon the real and personal property of the township. The right of way through the township, a distance of between eight and nine miles, ten acres of land for depot grounds, and \$10,000 in cash were donated to the company. The value of the whole gift was estimated at \$25,000. A fuller history of this road is given in the chapter on railroads.

## BRIDGES.

The first bridge across the Shell Rock River, in Rockford Township, was built in 1858, by private subscription. This was swept away by floating ice before completion. No attempt to bridge the river was made again until 1865, when a good wooden Howe-truss bridge was constructed, at the expense partly of the county and partly of the citizens of Rockford. This bridge at Rockford lasted until 1875, when it was taken down, and the present iron bridge was constructed by the Canton Bridge Company, of Ohio, at the expense of the county. It was improved in 1881 at a cost of about \$2,000.

A wooden bridge was built by the county in 1866 at "Elmore's Mill." This was swept away in 1877, and the present iron bridge constructed, the work being performed by the Canton Bridge Company. This bridge is 250 feet long.

The iron bridge at Ruggle's Ford, on Lime Creek in the western part of the township, was built at the expense of the county in 1874.

## STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS.

Several of Rockford's citizens have held important positions in the service of the nation, State and county. Among them are the following :

E. G. Bowdoin served two terms in the Legislature, from 1860 to 1864, in one of which he was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He held the position of Secretary to the Judiciary Committee in Congress from March, 1863, to March, 1874.

Alvah Prescott was elected County Surveyor in 1857.

Horace Stearns was several times elected to the same office, and has held it since 1870. He was County Assessor in 1857, Superintendent of Schools in 1866, and Supervisor in 1866 and 1868.

R. N. Mathews was elected County Supervisor in 1860 and 1862.

J. C. Baker was chosen Supervisor in 1864.

A. G. Merrill held the same office two terms.

J. S. Childs was chosen County Treasurer in 1870.

R. C. Mathews was elected to the same office in 1872.

J. W. Merrill was elected County Superintendent in 1872.

Orlo H. Lyon served in the State Legislature two terms, from 1878 to 1882.

#### VIOLENT DEATHS.

July 16, 1858, Jeremiah Eaton, of Saline, Washtenaw County, Mich., who had a wife and five children, was drowned in Shell Rock River, at Rockford. He was endeavoring to cross the river in a skiff just above the dam, when the deceitful current carried him over. His body was not found until nine days afterward, about six miles below. All efforts to find the body near the dam proving unsuccessful, G. G. and Edward Reiniger, of St. Charles City, and Horace Stearns and O. N. Robbins, of Rockford, procured two skiffs and proceeded down the river. About six miles below the dam they discovered the body lodged among some willows in the vicinity of Marble Rock. It was lying mostly out of water. They made a temporary coffin, in which they conveyed the corpse to St. Charles. The next day the citizens in large numbers followed the remains to the new cemetery. Mr. E. is said to have been a member of the Baptist church, and he was a highly respected citizen.

Much credit is due to Mr. G. G. Reiniger for his energetic efforts to discover the remains of Mr. Eaton, and see to their suitable interment. He was the owner of some \$8,000 or \$10,000 worth of property in this county. One or two dollars of money, a few papers and a watch were found upon the body.

March 17, 1859, Richard Ready was drowned in the Shell Rock River, at Rockford. He was engaged in running a ferry-boat at that place, and was taking across the river, above the mill-dam, a gentleman named Billings, with two children, and a pair of horses and wagon. The wind blew hard down the stream, the current was strong, and they were carried over the dam. Mr. Billings succeeded in swimming ashore. Mr. Pierson, a gentleman who had a small boat in the river, saved one of the children, and Mr. Childs, a man on shore, plunged in and rescued the other. One of the horses gained the shore, while Mr. Ready and the other

horse were drowned. The body of Mr. Ready was not recovered until the second day afterward. He left a wife and two children

July, 1867, E. B. Evans, aged forty-eight, was drowned at Rockford in the river.

Jan. 1, 1868, Samuel L. Knapp was thrown against a tree by a runaway team and dragged some distance, and died the Sunday following.

George P. Ransom, about 1870, was instantly killed, by being thrown against a fence by a runaway horse, within a few feet of where Mr. Knapp was killed.

On the 23d day of December, 1871, the railway bridge at Rockford was crushed by a passing train, and engine, cars and passengers were precipitated down to the ice, upon the Shell Rock River, a distance of about twenty-five feet. James Judd, an engineer, Robert White, a fireman, and one Bartlett, a brakeman, were instantly killed. James Brown and Daniel Maloy, of Nora Springs, employes of the road, were seriously injured. Not a passenger was killed or seriously hurt.

In 1874 James Scott was killed by a runaway team. This year, also, Lyman Moore lost his way in the evening on his way home, and froze to death.

In 1875 L. A. Billings was murdered near the western line of the county. See chapter entitled "Criminal."

On Friday, March 10, 1876, the house of Mr. Withey, who live about three miles northwest from Rockford, on Mr. Starbird's farm, was struck by lightning three times; the first time it came down the stove pipe and struck Mr. Withey upon the left hand, removing the skin from it; it then passed up the arm and down the left side, completely destroying the left foot, leaving a large blue streak upon the body. He was conscious, and alive until about midnight when he went to sleep and seemed to experience great difficulty in breathing. He continued to sleep until Sunday at three o'clock in the afternoon, when he died.

#### OTHER CASUALTIES.

Oct. 16, prairies on fire in the vicinity of Rockford, resulting in considerable damage. The fire came upon the dwelling-house of L. Whitney, on the east bank of Shell Rock, while the family were eating, and almost instantly the house was in flames. They lost all their furniture and clothing, and four hogs in the pen. About thirty tons of hay, belonging to Mr. Greene, and considerable

fence belonging to him and to Mr. Stearns, were also destroyed. South of Charles City, also, some losses were a short time previously sustained from prairie fires.

Other fires, floods, hurricanes, etc., are noted in the second and sixteenth chapters.

ROCKFORD.—BEGINNINGS AND EARLY GROWTH.

In the spring of 1856 John Platt and S. P. Brittain, of Rockford; George Wyatt, formerly from Rockford, but then living at St. Charles, and Willard Bowdoin, of Salem Mass., bought of R. N. Mathews and David Ripley what is now known as the original town of Rockford, and had it platted and recorded. Each of these gentlemen owned a one-fourth interest. The following year G. W. Bowdoin bought of Brittain a one-eighth interest. G. Wyatt sold his quarter interest to D. E. Johnson, who sold one eighth to E. G. Bowdoin, and the other one eighth to S. P. Brittain. Brittain afterward sold this one eighth to D. M. Bemis.

During the summer of 1856, these proprietors let the contract for building a dam across the Shell Rock to O. N. Robbins, and by fall they had a saw-mill in successful operation. Every board or slab cut from this mill was picked up with eager haste by the houseless inhabitants. George Wyatt built the first frame house in the village, and it was also the first in the township, on the block where the Wyatt House afterward stood. This frame house he occupied less than a year, when he built the stone one which became a part of the Wyatt House. Theron Thomas, O. N. Robbins, D. S. Blanchard, Joel Griffin, H. W. Fields, S. W. Haven and Ransom Knapp followed in building their houses as fast as lumber could be procured to build a shelter. Robbins hauled his lumber from a saw-mill six miles south of Charles City.

John Ferguson opened the first stock of goods in the village and township, in a building afterward the residence of J. W. Merrill. Ferguson traded this stock of goods to D. Mahoney for his farm, in the winter of 1856-'7. In 1857 Mahoney sold to V. W. Corey, who reduced the stock and went out of the mercantile business.

In the fall of 1856 Charles Smith bought of R. C. Horr 1,100 acres of land, on sections 11 and 12, and he built during the following winter a log house near the present residence of J. S. Childs.

In the summer of 1857 D. E. Johnson brought a lot of good from Cedar Falls, and after forming a partnership with Charles



Smith, built a temporary store. In the fall of the same year they built a stone store 22 x 40, on Platt street, where they continued in the business until the spring of 1860, when Smith sold his interest to R. C. Mathews. The business was then carried on by Johnson and Mathews until the fall of 1864, when Johnson sold to R. N. Mathews. The firm was then Mathews & Son for some time, and then this firm sold out to O. J. Wilbur and John Plummer. After a time Plummer sold his interest to Wilbur. Wilbur then built a store on Wyatt's block. He continued in business until his death, which occurred in 1879.

The name of Rockford was selected by the first proprietors and settlers because the great majority of them were from Rockford, Ill. The name was also considered appropriate from the rocky bottom and sides of the ford in use before any bridge was built.

J. S. Childs and O. H. Lyon came in July, 1857, erected the building, now occupied by the postoffice, and carried on the mercantile business until the fall of 1871. Childs was then elected County Treasurer, and sold his interest to Lyon, who carried on the business alone for two years, when Childs was again taken in partnership. They then built a new store, 22 x 60, and carried on the business together for two years longer when Lyon sold out to Childs, who has since carried on the business alone.

#### INCORPORATION.

To promote the welfare of Rockford it was thought by many that it should be incorporated. The question of incorporation was submitted to the people, March 16, 1878, and was decided in the affirmative by a vote of ninety-seven to eighty-one. The first election for town officers was held April 26, 1878. The officers chosen were as follows: Mayor, Orlo H. Lyon; Recorder, O. F. Myers; Trustees, J. S. Childs, Alex. McElroy, L. R. Burton, C. Lyons and A. L. Plummer; Marshal, J. E. Plumley; Treasurer, O. H. Lyon. The present officers: Mayor, E. P. Andrews; Recorder, S. W. Woodhouse; Trustees, H. C. Scott, R. C. Mathews, D. D. Cutler, J. C. Moore, O. N. Robbins and A. W. Dawson; Marshal, J. B. Parmenter; Assessor, D. G. Campbell; Treasurer, Harry A. Merrill.

#### HOTELS.

The first hotel was built and kept in 1856, by Ransom Knapp. After about three years he sold out to John Harriman. He had it about two years, and then sold to B. F. Beebe, of Wisconsin. He

in turn sold to Levi Lyons, the present proprietor, but it is not now run as a hotel.

George Wyatt built his residence on Oak street, near Platt street, in 1856, and in 1863 he opened it as a hotel with the name "Wyatt House." Mr. Wyatt has run the hotel ever since.

In 1871 B. F. Beebe built the present Beebe House, and opened it to the public. His son-in-law, William Durkee, was in partnership with Mr. Beebe, and the two ran it until 1881, when the property was sold to Durkee. The present proprietors are Durkee and Critchfield.

MILLS.

In the spring of 1857 Chapman Bros. erected a steam saw-mill, but soon after completion they became involved and the mill was taken to Mitchell County.

Sept. 1, 1858, a ferry license was issued to George Wyatt, for the Rockford ferry, with the following scale of prices:

	CENTS.
Double carriage (drawn by two animals).....	35
Single carriage (drawn by one animal).....	25
Man and horse.....	10
Every additional horse.....	5
Any other animal.....	5
Footman.....	3

In the year 1861 J. T. Graham having had the foundation of this flouring mill washed out and the mill washed down the river to Marble Rock, went in partnership with George Wyatt, built a dam across Lime Creek and erected a stone flouring mill 32 x 42, for three run of stone. This mill changed hands several times and was burned in December, 1874. Alex. Elmore, the owner at the time of the burning of the mill, erected a new and larger one at the same place in 1875, with four run of stone, size 36 x 50 at a cost of some \$10,000. The mill is now owned by Minneapolis parties.

J. T. Graham and D. D. Cutler, in 1873, built a dam and flouring mill on the Shell Rock, with four run of stone, size 36 x 46, at a cost of \$10,000. After about two years, Mr. Cutler sold out his interest to Mr. Graham, the present proprietor.

## ELEVATOR.

The elevator of B. D. Cutler and Robert Lindon was built in 1875, by E. F. Bacon. Mr. Butler bought a one-half interest in May, 1876. Mr. Bacon sold to A. W. Dawson, in February, 1879, and he in turn sold his interest to Robert Lindon, in June, 1882.

The firm of Cutler & Lindon deal in all kinds of grain, particularly corn, and in live-stock. During the year ending July 31, 1882, they shipped two hundred and twenty-five cars of corn, mostly to Peoria, Ill.; forty-eight cars of oats, mostly to Peoria; fifty-two cars of flax, to Burlington and St. Louis; thirty-five cars of wheat, and ninety-four cars of hogs and cattle. They also grind a great deal of feed, their production of this article alone reaching 100 car-loads the past year.

The nearest competing elevators are eight miles distant, at Marble Rock and at Nora Springs. This one is valued at \$8,000. The engine and boiler are each fifteen horse-power. The firm have introduced a new contrivance, by which wagons of corn are driven on a platform, and the corn is dumped below, without handling, and there shelled. The only other "dump" elevator is at Marble Rock, and adopted the method after Messrs. Cutler & Lindon introduced it.

## CREAMERY.

The Rockford Creamery of Charles Howell was built by Edwin Price in 1881, but not operated until 1882, when Mr. Howell leased it of Mr. Price. It is 40 x 30, one story and basement in height, and has a capacity for making 1,000 pounds of butter a day. The actual production up to July 1, averages about 350 pounds a day, or 10,000 pounds a month. This butter is shipped to Eastern markets, and brings about ten cents more per pound than dairy butter. Mr. Howell is from Orange County, N. Y., and it was in that dairy country that he gained his experience. He has every prospect of success in his undertaking. He runs three cream wagons at the present time. His is the only creamery in Rockford Township.

## BANK.

The bank of Rockford was organized in 1871, under the firm title of Mathews & Son, and maintained the same administrative power until August, 1877. The entrance of the Hon. O. H. Lyon marked a new career, and the partnership became, as now, Mathews

& Lyon. R. N. Mathews died in 1877, and his son, R. C. Mathews, is now Mr. Lyon's partner. The bank possesses the advantages of sufficient capital to meet all demands. That it passed through the panic of 1873 unscathed, and the fact of its officers being experienced financiers, men of untarnished record and wealthy, are sufficient evidences to cause the public confidence it has gained and bound to maintain. The routine work of the bank is attended to by their efficient and reliable Cashier, Harry N. Merrill, who is assisted by John A. Pearson. The deposits in this bank, May 11, 1872, were, \$12,899.43; May 11, 1882, \$72,443.17, an increase of sixfold.

## POSTOFFICE.

The first Postmaster was George Wyatt, who was appointed in July, 1856. He was succeeded in 1857 by B. P. Franklin, the father of the present Postmaster. R. N. Mathews was appointed in 1858. The next to fill the office was J. S. Childs, who was appointed in 1861. The fifth Postmaster was Orlo H. Lyon, who entered upon his duties in 1871. He was succeeded, Oct. 15, 1877, by the present incumbent, O. R. Franklin, who received his commission from Keyes, Postmaster-General under Hayes. During the quarter ending June 30, 1882, there were received from box rent, \$36.80; sales of stamps, \$407.81; and stamps were canceled to the value of \$353.15.

## PROFESSIONAL.

The first lawyer in Rockford was R. N. Mathews, who died in 1878. E. G. Bowdoin, who had practiced about ten years in Massachusetts, was admitted to the bar in 1856, but never practiced here. The present practitioners are Robert Eggert, who was admitted in 1879; Edgar P. Andrews, who came from Hampton in 1879; J. W. Merrill, who came from Charles City in 1872; S. Woodhouse, who was admitted to the bar in 1878, and Mr. McKenna, who came to Rockford in January, 1882.

The first physician was James Cortright, who came from Charles City in 1857, remained about three years, and then went to Decorah, Winneshiek County, where he now resides. Dr. E. O. Kimball came in 1858 from Shullsburg, Wis. He remained about four years, and then went to Chicago; thence he went to Colorado. Dr. N. T. McEwen came here in 1862, from Ulster Township. He is now in partnership with his son Earl, who has practiced here about

one year. They are of the Homeopathic school. The other present physicians are E. W. Wilbur, who came from Woodstock, Ill., in 1870, and W. H. Nickols, who came in 1875 from Greene, Butler County.

#### BUSINESS.

The following is a complete business directory of the village: E. P. Andrews, attorney; A. Bauman, shoemaker; Mrs. B. Benson, dressmaker; F. Bluemensteil, barber; M. E. Bort, druggist; Mrs. H. Boylan, milliner; Burton Brothers, hardware merchants; William Cavanaugh, blacksmith; J. S. Childs & Sons, general merchants; Cornish & Dawson, general merchants; Mrs. C. A. Crocker, dressmaker; Cutler & Linden, proprietors of elevator; T. W. Davis, merchant miller; Durkee & Critchfield, proprietors of Beebe House; Robert Eggert, proprietor of paper-mill; C. L. Fay, lumberman; C. R. Franklin, stationer and Postmaster; A. M. Gage, harness-maker; J. T. Graham, custom miller; Griffith & Irwin, druggist; F. J. Hale, grocer, Hanson Brothers, liquor dealers; L. M. Harris, brickmaker; S. W. Havens, furniture dealer; Mrs. A. E. Hazlett, dressmaker; C. Heft, shoemaker; C. Howell, creamery man; F. L. Hunstock, butcher; Johnston Brothers, hardware merchants; O. H. Johnson, general merchant; F. Kuck, harness-maker; William Kuck, wagon-maker; Mallory & Hickok, painters; S. Marke, brewer; C. Martin, wagon-maker; W. D. Martin, butcher; Mathews & Lyon, bankers; McEwen & Son, physicians; Morris McKenna, attorney; F. McSpadden, Jr., hardware merchant; J. W. Merrill, attorney; H. Moore & Co., restauraners; J. C. Moore, general merchant; C. F. Myers, general merchant; W. H. Nickols, physician; Pearson & McDougal, machinists; P. E. Phelps, stock and grain buyer; Edwin Price, grain merchant; A. Rasch, blacksmith; O. N. Robbins, liveryman; Isaac Sabelowitz, general merchant; Scott & Jack, machinists; A. Schroeder, wagon-maker; D. L. Semler, dentist; C. M. Smith, general merchant; Smith & Robinson, liquor dealers; Mrs. S. A. Strait, milliner; R. Straight, gunsmith; E. E. Teape, jeweler; E. E. Turner, photographer; F. L. Whitney & Co., proprietors of *Reveille*; E. W. Wilbur, physician; S. W. Woodhouse, attorney; George Wyatt & Son, proprietors of Wyatt House; O. Yorker, blacksmith; O. Zanke, blacksmith.

The population of Rockford in 1860 was 300; in 1870, 400; in 1880, 700; 1882, 800.

## THE BOOKFORD REVELLE.

This is a four-page weekly edited and published every Thursday by F. L. Whitney & Co. For a full history of the *Reveille* and of the *Geologist*, published in the same office, see the chapter on the "Press."

## CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.

*M. E. Church.*—The first volunteer Methodist preachers in this vicinity were Rev. John Ball, who came in 1856, and Revs. Freeman and L. G. Hiscox, who came in 1857. Articles of incorporation were signed in 1857 by William B. Pierce, John Ball, William Welch, William Mutchler and George Wyatt. The first Trustees were George Wyatt, B. P. Franklin, E. M. Van Anken, William Welch and John Ball. Lots for a parsonage were donated by the town proprietors. The first circuit preacher assigned to this church was Rev. W. P. Holbrook, whose circuit extended from Clarksville to Forest City.

Their church was built in 1874, at a cost of \$4,000, by W. W. Blood, contractor. The Trustees at that time were O. J. Wilbur, J. C. Moore, Adam Seaver, A. H. Evans and Dr. E. W. Wilbur.

After Mr. Holbrook, Revs. Mr. Hankins, Mr. Glassner, B. F. Taylor, L. S. Cooley, Joseph Gould and Mr. Rowen successively officiated as pastor of the church. Rev. J. O. Magee came from Fayette in 1870, and remained one year. He is now at Waverly. He was succeeded by Rev. P. W. Gould, in 1871, and he by Rev. J. J. Littler, in 1873. The following year came Rev. J. G. Wilkinson, and he in turn was followed in 1875 by Rev. William Cobb. Rev. Joseph Cook was called to the pulpit in 1877, and preached one year; that year was his last in the pulpit, and he is now in the insurance business, at Waterloo. Rev. W. W. Smith came in 1878, from Clarksville; he is now at Mt. Albans. The present pastor, Rev. J. H. Heyward, came in 1881, from Raymond, Iowa.

The present membership of the church is sixty-five.

The Sunday-school connected with the church contains about 100 pupils, in seven classes. The library contains 100 books. Dr. E. W. Wilbur has been Superintendent most of the time for the past twelve years.

*Congregational Church.*—Rev. S. P. La Due came from Mitchell County occasionally during the fall of 1857, and preached to the settlers. The settling up of the country brought with it an increase in the number of church-going people, and of these the Congrega-

tionalists secured their share. Their number had so increased by Feb. 27, 1858, that on that day the Congregational church was organized. The following were the first members, they having previously been dismissed for the purpose from the Rock Grove church: Burton P. Franklin, Mrs. Rachel Franklin, Mrs. Orpha Stearns, Mrs. Elizabeth Fields, Lewellyn Whitney, Mrs. Pamela Whitney, O. H. Lyon, Oliver P. Way and Margaret Knapp. B. P. Franklin was elected Deacon.

Rev. S. P. La Due was engaged to preach regularly, and was the first pastor of the church. He remained until 1864, and was then succeeded by Rev. L. Warner, who preached until the early part of 1872. In the fall of that year he returned to Connecticut. April 1, 1872, Rev. Theron K. Bixby was called to the pulpit. He died March 13, 1873, after an illness of but a few days. Rev. G. A. Paddock succeeded him July 20, 1873, and remained as pastor until June, 1876, when his health failed him and he removed to Colorado.

The Congregational society was organized Dec. 6, 1864, with the following corporate members, "for the purpose of building a church and advancing the general interests of religion": George Wyatt, H. Stearns, J. C. Baker, W. J. Green, L. Whitney, O. A. Crocker, Robert Knapp, J. L. Graham, N. L. McEwen, J. S. Childs, and L. Warner. The first Trustees were H. Stearns, J. C. Baker and W. J. Green. The contract for building a church was let to L. Whitney. The lumber for this church was hauled from McGregor, a distance of 110 miles. The church was completed and dedicated in June, 1865, and cost \$2,500. It was re-covered, painted and otherwise thoroughly repaired in 1875, during the pastorate of Mr. Paddock.

Rev. Mr. Paddock was followed by Rev. James B. Gilbert, formerly from the East, and immediately from Wilton Junction, Iowa. Mr. Gilbert was a man of some ability, and ready and independent thought, and was well liked by his congregation. He left in 1879, and is now at Fontanelle, Neb. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Charles F. Dykeman.

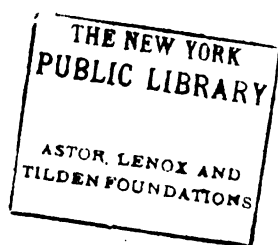
June 24, 1882, a destructive storm visited Rockford, and completely demolished the church edifice. The leaders at once set about raising funds to rebuild the church, and this work is rapidly progressing at the present writing.

The Sunday-school was organized first as a union school, and held services in the school-house until the Congregationalists



*Stephen P. Breton*





erected their church, when they started a school of their own. The present membership is about 100. The Superintendent is Dr. Earle McEwen.

*The First Baptist Church* of Rockford was organized in March, 1858, at the village school-house. Among the first members were S. W. Haven, Mrs. S. J. Haven, Ransom Knapp, Mrs. Emeline Robbins, Mrs. Julia Ready, all from Rockford, Ill.; and T. Thomas and wife, from Connecticut. The society was legally incorporated in 1870, and the Trustees chosen at this time were W. Haven, W. S. Hogobone, Lewis B. Clark, Charles Watkins and J. B. Hogobone. S. W. Haven was chosen Clerk and Treasurer. The officers elected since are as follows:

1871.—Same as preceding year.

1872.—Trustees: S. W. Haven, W. S. Hogobone, Lewis B. Clark, J. B. Hogobone and John S. Laucks; Clerk and Treasurer, S. W. Haven.

1873.—Same as preceding year.

1874.—Same as preceding year.

1875.—Same as preceding year.

1876.—Same as preceding year.

1877.—Trustees: A. Quackenbush, L. B. Clark, L. B. Webster, R. Strait, and S. W. Haven; Clerk and Treasurer, S. W. Haven.

1878.—Same as preceding year.

1879.—Same as preceding year.

1880.—Same as preceding year.

1881.—Trustees: A. Powers, L. B. Clark, L. B. Webster, R. Strait, and S. W. Haven; Clerk and Treasurer, S. W. Haven.

1882.—Same as preceding year.

The first services of the denomination were conducted by Rev. D. B. Mead, of Rock Grove, in 1858. Meetings were at first held once in four weeks. Among the various pastors the society has had were Rev. Alvah Plumley, and Rev. Mr. Author, the last pastor. Since 1872 they have held no regular services. They have no church building. The Sunday-school was discontinued the same time with the church services.

*Sirius Lodge, No. 323, A. F. & A. M.*, was organized with eighteen members under dispensation, Jan. 14, 1873. The dispensation was granted Jan. 6, 1873, and appointed R. C. Mathews, W. M.; O. Watkins S. W., and A. G. Merrill, J. W. The W. M. appointed the following officers *pro tem.*: J. C. Moore, Treasurer; W. H.

Porter, Secretary; J. B. Williams, S. D.; A. Ello, J. D.; D. A. Nash, Tyler. The charter was granted June 4, 1873, and the first officers elected under it were as follows: R. C. Mathews, W. M.; C. Watkins, S. W.; A. G. Merrill, J. W.; T. S. Kelso, Treasurer; F. L. Warner, Secretary. The present officers, elected in June, 1882, are as follows: J. O. Moore, W. M.; H. A. Merrill, S. W.; F. Boulden, J. W.; O. Watkins, Secretary; H. Stearns, Treasurer. The present membership is fifty-six. The lodge is in good condition financially. It meets once a month.

*Pioneer Lodge, No. 194, I. O. O. F.*, was established at Rudd, Oct. 20, 1870, and was removed to Rockford in the summer of 1873, by permission of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. The first officers elected after the removal were chosen at a meeting held Dec. 4, 1873, and are as follows: Orson T. Brainard, N. G.; James Lewis, V. G.; A. C. Lyons, Secretary; J. O. Moore, Treasurer. The present officers are as follows: J. M. Fuller, N. G.; W. T. George, V. G.; H. C. Scott, Secretary; O. Holtan, Treasurer; August Bauman, R. S. to N. G.; S. W. Woodhouse, L. S. to N. G.; J. G. Hess, R. S. to N. G. The present membership in good standing numbers about forty-five. The lodge is in good condition, and meets every Monday evening at Masonic Hall.

*Rockford Lodge, No. 16, I. O. G. T.*, is a continuation of Perseverance Division, No. 18, Sons of Temperance, which was organized in 1876. This division met regularly until in 1880, when a majority of the members desired to change their organization and become a lodge of the I. O. G. T. A charter was accordingly petitioned for by fifty of the members, and their charter was granted Nov. 19, 1880. The society, when known as the Sons of Temperance, was for some time known as the "banner" division in the State, it having the largest membership. Since the change the society has prospered financially and otherwise. It meets Friday evenings at Griffin's Hall. The officers for the first quarter after the charter was granted, were as follows: John Rooney, W. O. T.; Mrs. R. C. Mathews, W. V. T.; Rev. W. W. Smith, W. Chap.; R. M. Potter, W. Sec.; Miss Alice Childs, W. A. Sec.; R. M. Briggs, W. F. Sec.; Mrs. E. W. Wilbur, W. Treas.; E. W. Wilbur, W. M.; Mrs. W. H. Nickols, W. D. M.; Miss Nanny Watkins, W. I. G.; T. W. Davis, W. O. G.; Mrs. D. D. Outler, W. R. H. S.; Mrs. C. Wyatt, W. L. H. S.; Rev. C. F. Dykeman, P. W. C. T.

*Fidelity Chapter, No. 42, O. E. S.*, was organized in January, 1874, with a membership of twenty-four. The first officers were as follows: Mrs. L. Yorker, W. M.; Christopher Yorker, W. P.; Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews, A. M.; Mrs. J. J. Littler, Con.; Mrs. Harriet Merrill, A. C.; Charles Watkins, Sec.; John Carson, Treas.; Mrs. J. C. Moore, Warder; Fred. Warner, Sent.; Mrs. Delia Watkins, Adah; Mrs. Sarah Whitney, Ruth; Mrs. Eveline Warner, Esther; Mrs. Etta Reed, Martha; Mrs. Pollie Carson, Electa. The office of Worthy Matron has been held successively by Mrs. L. Yorker, Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews, Mrs. J. J. Littler, Mrs. Mary E. Wilbur, Mrs. Harriet A. Merrill and Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews. Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews has held the office of Grand Lecturer for two years in the Grand Lodge, and is now serving her third year as Grand Matron. Mrs. Mary E. Wilbur was Grand Conductress two years. D. H. Moore was Grand Secretary for two years. Mrs. Adella Rooney was Grand Adah one year. Mrs. Julia M. Barnum was Grand Organist one year. This is an excellent representation for the Rockford Chapter. The present officers are as follows: Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews, W. M.; Harry E. Merrill, W. P.; Mrs. Julia M. Barnum, A. M.; Mrs. Mary E. Wilbur, Sec.; Mrs. Francis Durkee, Treas.; Mrs. Cora L. Merrill, Con.; Mrs. Augusta Boulden, A. C.; Mrs. Nancy Knapp, Warder; Orrin D. Hoege, Sent.; Mrs. Adella Rooney, Adah; Mrs. Orpha O. Stearns, Ruth; Mrs. Mary O. Scott, Esther; Mrs. Julia A. Martin, Martha; Mrs. L. Yorker, Electa. The present membership is thirty-four. The chapter is in good condition financially and otherwise. It meets at the Masonic Hall the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

*The W. C. T. U., of Rockford*, was organized May 5, 1882, at the M. E. church, by Mrs. Aldrich, of Cedar Rapids, State Organizer. At this meeting twenty-three ladies joined, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and officers elected. These were as follows: President, Mrs. Jane Blanchard; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Mattie Fay and Mrs. J. T. Graham; Secretary, Mrs. S. G. Wilbur; Treasurer, Mrs. J. H. Heyward. This was the sixth of the seven local unions organized in Floyd County, the last one being organized at Marble Rock. The Rockford Union has a membership of thirty-five, steadily increasing. Its leaders feel hopeful as to their future work. It meets every week at the M. E. church, and will meet every other week in the Congregational church, when that shall be rebuilt.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*E. P. Andrews*, attorney, was born in Henry County, Iowa, July 14, 1853. His father was a native of Virginia, and his mother of Ohio. Mr. Andrews was admitted to the bar May 1, 1879, and commenced the practice of law the following December, in Rockford, Iowa.

*M. E. Bort* one of the prominent citizens of Rockford, was born Feb. 15, 1846, in Herkimer County, N. Y. He left New York, when seven years of age, moving to Ossian, Winneshiek County, Ia., where he subsequently engaged in the drug business. In 1876 he removed to Charles City, and one year later came to Rockford, where he has since resided. He is engaged in the drug business here and also keeps a full line of jewelry. His marriage to Eugenia Moe, occurred at Avoca, Pottawattamie County, Ia., on Sept. 11, 1873. She was born in Wisconsin, March 11, 1848. They have three children—Earl Leslie, born Feb. 17, 1875; Edna, March 22, 1877, and Clyde, June 22, 1879. Mrs. Bort is a member of the Free-Will Baptist church, and politically Mr. Bort is a strong Republican.

*Hon. Elbridge G. Bowdoin*, of Floyd County, Ia., was born at South Hadley Falls, Hampshire County, Mass., on the 16th day of February, 1820. His father, Hon. William Bowdoin, of Huguenot origin and a descendant of the same ancestors as the Bowdoin of Boston, was for more than forty years a practicing attorney of the Massachusetts bar and for several terms a member of the Massachusetts Senate. The subject of our sketch was educated at Amherst College, Massachusetts, where he graduated in 1840. After graduating he commenced the study of law, but subsequently for some time taught an academy at Spencertown, Columbia County, N. Y., and again from 1842 to 1845 was similarly engaged at Milton, Caswell County, N. C. Returning to Massachusetts, the latter year, he resumed his legal studies with Judge Henry Morris, at Springfield, where in May, 1847, he was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of Massachusetts. Immediately after he removed to Amherst, where he entered into partnership with the Hon. Edward Dickinson, with whom he continued in the practice of his profession until 1855, when, owing to ill health, he made a journey to Iowa, which eventuated in his becoming interested in real estate in Floyd and adjoining counties, and a resident of the town of Rockford, of which he was one of the original pro-

prietors. In 1856 he was admitted to the bar of Floyd County, but never practiced there. In 1859 he was elected a member of the Iowa House of Representatives, which met in 1860, from the district then composed of the counties of Floyd, Cerro Gordo, Worth, Hancock and Winnebago, in which session he was a member of the Judiciary Committee, and Chairman of the Committee on Schools and State University. He was re-elected to the assembly which met in 1862, in which session he was Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and a member of the committee or apportioning the State into congressional districts. In 1860 he was a member of the Iowa delegation to the National Republican Convention, at Chicago, which nominated Mr. Lincoln. In December, 1863, going to Washington he was made Clerk of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, of which the Hon. James F. Wilson, of Iowa, was Chairman, which position he retained for nearly ten years, six of them with Mr. Wilson as Chairman, and the remainder with Hon. John A. Bingham, of Ohio. Since that time he has resided at Rockford, where he is principal proprietor of the unoccupied town property, and is engaged in farming and dealing in real estate. He is one of the most public spirited men in the Shell Rock Valley. He was never married.

*N. D. Bowles*, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford Township, is a native of Holmes County, O., born May 3, 1833. He was reared and educated in his native place, residing there until his eighteenth year, when he came to Iowa, locating in Clayton County, in the summer of 1851. In 1872 he moved to Osceola County, and in 1877 to Floyd County, where he has remained since. His marriage to Bertha A. Cummings occurred Nov. 14, 1856. She was born in Michigan, June 29, 1837. Mr. Bowles enlisted in February, 1862, in the Sixteenth United States Infantry, and served two years, participating in the battles of Shiloh, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kennesaw Gap, Atlanta, and was captured just before the memorable battle of Perryville, Ky., but succeeded in making his escape that night, and returned to his regiment. He was appointed master of transportation for the army from Louisville, Ky., to Fort Scott, Kan., and was there from June until the following January. After the close of the war he returned to Floyd County, and has been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Rockford Township since. Politically he is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*William Braunton* is a native of England, born June 6, 1834. He received his education in his native country, and there learned the builder's trade, which he followed until 1871, when he came to the United States, and to Rockford, Ia., via Chicago. He has built many of the residences in Rockford, and has been very successful. He was married in his native country, in 1866, to Emma Haslett, who was born in England in 1843. Their union has been blessed with six children—Ernest, Marian, Hugh, Blanche, Harold and Eva. The first three were born in England, the last three in America. Mr. Braunton, in politics, is a strong supporter of the Republican party. He is a member of the Established Church of England.

*Stephen P. Britton* was born in Elizabeth, N. J., and there his boyhood was passed, and his education received. In 1848 he left his native State for the West, and located in Chicago, Ill., where he engaged in the practice of law two years; then removed to Winnebago County, Ill. He farmed on Rock River nine years, and in 1856 came to Floyd County, purchasing an interest in the town property of Rockford. He now owns 360 acres of fine land, adjoining the city. He was married in 1858 to Annie D. Porter, a native of Zanesville, O., born in 1836. They have three children—Stephen, born in 1860; Robert, in 1862, and Annie, in 1871. Mr. Britton is classed with the prominent farmers and fine-stock breeders of the county, and owns some choice imported cattle, horses and hogs.

*Henry Bumgardner* was born April 17, 1825, in the State of Ohio. He lived there until 1857, when he came to Floyd County, and settled on section 28, Rockford Township. He now owns 230 acres of as fine land as there is in the county, all under excellent cultivation, and containing many improvements and conveniences not found on the average farm. He learned the miller's trade in Ohio, and has followed that occupation in connection with farming much of the time since coming here. He was married in 1858. Mrs. Bumgardner was born in Indiana in 1840. They have seven children—Albert Newton, born in 1860; John Leeson, in 1862; Mary C., in 1864; Eddie Jasper, in 1866; William Henry, in 1868, Estella, in 1875, and Carter, in 1879. Mr. Bumgardner has held the office of School Director four terms.

*D. G. Campbell* is a native of the township of Eldon, Victoria County, Canada West, and is at present engaged in clerking in

Rockford, Floyd County, Ia. He was married Feb. 22, 1871, and has a family of five children, two sons and three daughters.

*John S. Childs* is a native of Woodstock, Conn., born Sept. 30, 1833, a son of John Childs, a successful farmer, and Alice, *nee* Walker. His parents are excellent examples of the higher type of Puritanic character; honest, industrious and frugal, rearing their children in the strictest principles of integrity, and early teaching them that idleness was to be no part of their inheritance. They are still living at the advanced age of ninety years. John Childs, Sr., has always been noted for his sterling Christian character, and for doing well whatever he undertakes to do. Mrs. Childs is an estimable woman of superior intellectual abilities, and is thoroughly posted on all the topics of the day, and on matters pertaining to the General Government. She is ready and expert in argument, and believes that it is a woman's duty, equally with her right, to inform herself in all practical knowledge attainable by a careful husbandry of spare time. She is a devoted Christian, and has laid up a rich store of treasure for the great hereafter. John Spencer Childs was educated in a select school in his native town, and subsequently taught a few seasons. In March, 1857, he emigrated to Iowa, selecting Rockford as the scene of his future labors. He embarked in the mercantile business with his brother-in-law, O. H. Lyon, now a banker of Rockford. The firm of Childs & Lyon continued for twelve or fifteen years, and few houses in the Shell Rock Valley were better known, or were the recipients of more extensive trade than they. Mr. Childs is still in the business, having operated alone until the past four years, since when his son Harry has been in partnership with him and manages the entire business. Mr. Childs, Sr., was married March 30, 1858, to Lydia F. Lyon, a native of Woodstock County. They have five children—Harry M., Alice S., Mary L., Anna G., and Leonard W. Politically he favors the Republican party.

*F. B. Cogswell* is a native of Erie County, N. Y., born in the town of Wales, Mar. 20, 1834. When sixteen years of age he left his native State and went to Pennsylvania, returning two years later. He subsequently emigrated to Illinois, where he remained two years; then went back to New York; thence to Waushara County, Wis. He owned a farm of eighty acres on section 15, Richland Township, which he sold in 1881. He was elected to all the township offices of Richland Township, and was Sheriff of the county two years. He came to Floyd County, Ia., in 1873, hav-



ing previously purchased land here in 1868. He owns 160 acres and is classed with the representative farmers and breeders of fine stock of Floyd County. He was married Dec. 10, 1856, to Martha Leigh, who was born in England in 1833. Three children have been born unto them—Eva T., born Dec. 5, 1857, in Waushara County, Wis., and died in Rockford Township, Ia., Feb. 17, 1878, of typhoid fever; Addie I., born August, 1862, and Frank, Sept. 7, 1868. In his religious views Mr. Cogswell is a Liberalist, and politically is a Republican, and has been elected by that party to many of the local offices. He is at present serving as Road Supervisor and School Director, to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.

*S. B. Cogswell*, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford Township, was born in Wales, Erie County, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1840, and was there reared and educated. He emigrated to Ogle County, Ill., in 1861, and engaged in farming there until 1880, when he removed to Floyd County, Ia., and settled upon his present farm of 140 acres, on section 2, Rockford Township. This farm is under excellent improvement and thoroughly stocked. He was married Nov. 20, 1856, to Frances Hubbard, also a native of Erie County, N. Y., born Oct. 1, 1841. They have had four children—Ettie, born Feb. 18, 1859; Willie, born Mar. 1, 1865, died Mar. 25, 1870; Minnie Ellen, born Nov. 23, 1869, and Lizzie, Sept. 18, 1874. Mr. Cogswell is at present serving acceptably in the offices of Road Supervisor and School Director. In politics he is a strong Republican.

*John D. Conner* was born in Holland, Erie County, N. Y., Aug. 22, 1832. His father, S. B. Conner, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1811, and died March 1, 1877. His mother, Tufanny Dake, was born in Holland, N. Y., March 22, 1815, and died March 24, 1872. His parents were early settlers of Holland, N. Y., and moved to Wisconsin, where they both died. They had nine children; seven are still living. While in New York, Mr. Conner carried on the daguerreotype business for seven years. In 1862 he went to Warren County, Pa., where he lived three years. He then moved to Wisconsin and remained six years; from there, to Floyd County, Ia., and settled in Ulatser Township; two years later went to Rudd and lived four years; then came to Rockford, where he kept a restaurant for three years, when he sold out, and has since followed painting most of the time. He has had a wooden leg since he was fifteen years old.

His wife, Urania E. Crowell, was born in Centerville, Allegany County, N. Y., Sept. 23, 1827. Her father, Samuel Crowell, died in New York in 1862. She was the oldest of his seven children. Her uncle, Edward Crowell, was one of the first settlers of Floyd County, and owned a large farm. He died in Ulster Township, in 1880. His large family of fourteen children all reside in Iowa.

*C. E. Cutter*, one of the representative citizens of Rockford Township, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., June 26, 1847. His father is a native of Herkimer County, N. Y., born June 3, 1810; his mother, of Pennsylvania, born Jan. 21, 1821. They are now residents of Cerro Gordo County, Ia. The subject of this memoir came West with his parents in 1854, settling in Wisconsin, where they resided eighteen months, then removed to Floyd County, Ia., locating on a farm about four miles south of Charles City. One year later they went to Cerro Gordo County, where C. E. resided eight years, engaged in farming. He was married on Jan. 8, 1879, to Josephine M. Perness, who was born in La Salle County, Ill., March 4, 1847. Two children have been born of this union — Cynthia M., born May 9, 1880, and Olara, Feb. 4, 1882. In politics Mr. Cutter is independent, voting for the man rather than the party. He is extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising in this township.

*T. W. Davies*, miller and grain merchant, Rockford, was born in the State of Connecticut, Oct. 15, 1849. His parents moved to Kewanee, Henry County, Ill., when he was quite young, and he was there educated and learned the miller's trade, which he followed there three years; then went to Minnesota, where his parents had moved in the spring of 1870. He worked in a mill two years, then engaged with the topographical surveyors on the St. P. & P. R. R., now the St. P., M. & M. In the fall of 1872 he resumed the milling business, being employed in the Sauk Center and Minneapolis Mills until December, 1875, when, in company with his brother William, Peter and Wm. Henry, formed a milling company at Belle Plaine, Minn., and continued in that connection until the fall of 1878. He and his brother William then came to Rockford, Ia., where he has been running the Excelsior Mills since. His brother returned to Belle Plaine in 1880, where he is engaged in running the mill they formerly owned. Mr. Davies was married Sept. 15, 1880, to Laura Stearns, who was born in Pittsfield Mass., April 26, 1846. She is a member of the Congregational church. In politics he is a Republican, and is one of the promi-

ment citizens of Rockford, being known throughout the county as a man of irreproachable business integrity.

*Charles Jay Dumbolton* was born in the State of New York, July 27, 1853, and was the youngest of a family of three children, viz.: Nathan, Lucius and Jay. In 1856 he left his native State, and with his parents moved to Wisconsin, settling in Columbia County. He received a practical education there, and in 1868 came with his parents to Floyd County, Ia. They settled upon a farm of 360 acres, on sections 9 and 10, which they still reside upon. Jay manages the farm for his parents, who are now in their declining years, and in connection with farming operates a steam threshing machine. He is a Republican in his political views, and is classed with the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of Floyd County.

*John Dumbolton* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 19, 1806. In 1856 he left his native State for the West, and located in Baraboo, Wis. From there he moved to Columbia County, that State; thence to Floyd County, Ia. He settled on section 9, Rockford Township, where he now owns a finely cultivated farm of 360 acres. He was married in Otsego County, N. Y., on June 8, 1834, to Harriet A. Coe, a native also of the Empire State, born in the town of Scriba, on April 5, 1813. Five children have blessed this union, viz.: Samuel, born April 18, 1835; Louisa, Nov. 9, 1837; Lucius B., April 1, 1843; Nathan H., June 5, 1848; and Charles Jay, July 27, 1851. The eldest son, Samuel, was drowned in the Tennessee River at Paducah, Ky., on March 25, 1864, while serving in the Union army, a member of Thirty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Dumbolton has retired from active business life, and his son, Charles Jay, is managing the farm. He is classed with the prominent agriculturists and stock-breeders of Floyd County, and in politics is a strong Republican.

*William Durkee*, proprietor of the Beebe House, Rockford, Ia., was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., July 30, 1839. At the age of seven years he came West with his parents, locating in Green Lake County, Wis., where he remained until March 4, 1864, when he came to Rockford, Floyd County, Ia. Since his residence here he has engaged in the hotel business, and is known throughout the county as a genial, gentlemanly host, and a popular landlord. He was married March 14, 1864, to Miss Frances Beebe, a native of Attica, Wyoming County, N. Y., born Feb. 14, 1844. They

have three children—Jennie C., born May 29, 1865; Frank, Nov. 11, 1868, and Robert Nelson, Feb. 26, 1874. Mrs. Durkee is a member of the Congregational church. He has always been a strong supporter of the Democratic party.

*Robert Eggert*, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford, is a native of Magdeburg, Prussia, born in 1839. He emigrated to London, England, in 1858, and to the United States in 1859. He came to Delaware County, Ia., in 1860, and ten years later to Floyd County. He farmed until 1875, and in that year commenced the study of law at the State University at Iowa City, continuing until 1877, and has practiced law in Charles City and Rockford from that time until the present. He edited the *Rockford Reveille* from July, 1877, to July, 1882, and is now engaged in the erection of a paper-mill. He was married to Miss Maggie Hoffman at Rockford, Ia., Nov. 7, 1877. She was born in Freeport, Ill., in 1858. Of three children born of this union, two are living—Alfred and Alice. As a lawyer of undisputed talent, Mr. Eggert ranks with the first of his profession; and as a gentleman of eminent social qualities, he has few superiors.

*A. H. Evans* was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1832. He was married Jan. 18, 1855, to Elizabeth Conrad, who was born in Hinsdale, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1830. There are two adopted children—F. D., born Feb. 23, 1855, and Hattie, born Feb. 22, 1877. Mr. Evans came to Floyd County, Iowa, in 1867, and now has a fine farm of 100 acres on section 34, Rockford Township. He is a Republican in his political views and has held the office of School Director and Road Supervisor several terms. In religious belief he is a Methodist. He enlisted Feb. 2, 1864, in the First New York Independent Battery, and was discharged June 23, 1865, in Syracuse, N. Y. He was in several hard-fought battles, among them the battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court-House, and Cold Harbor, Va. In 1856, while living in New York, some fallen timber near his house took fire, and as it was a very dry time, and a strong wind blowing, they were unable to save the house or contents. His family were obliged to take refuge in a well near by, in which there was not much water. They threw their bed-clothes and carpets into the well, but were obliged to dip water and pour on them, as the fire-brands were blown in on them. In this way they spent three hours, twelve feet below the earth's surface. The fire-fiend seems to have a special spite against him, for in 1866, while living in Cat-

taraugus County, N. Y., he had his storehouse and all his goods destroyed by fire.

*F. D. Evans* was born Feb. 23, 1855, in Alleghany County, N. Y. He was adopted by A. H. Evans in 1856, and came with him to Floyd County, Ia., in 1867. He follows farming as his profession.

*C. R. Franklin*, Postmaster, Rockford, was born in Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill., Jan. 28, 1843, the youngest of a family of two sons born of Burton R. Franklin, a native of New York, born March 3, 1811, and Rachel K., *nee* Bushnell, born July 30, 1810. His father died March 27, 1861; his mother is still living and resides with her son, the subject of this sketch. His brother, James Franklin, died Nov. 21, 1874, in this city, aged thirty-four years. C. R. resided in Rockford, Ill., until thirteen years of age, when he came with his parents to Rockford, Ia. He enlisted Sept. 21, 1861, in the Dubuque battery, served four years and three months, and was mustered out at Davenport, Ia. Among the important battles in which he participated were those of Flat Creek, Pea Ridge, Arkansas Post, the bombardment of Fort Pemberton, Helena, Ark., and was present at the capture of Little Rock. He returned to Rockford and was appointed Postmaster here on Oct. 15, 1877, by President Grant, and still holds the office. He was married June 18, 1867, to Clara E. Bailey, who was born near London, Eng. Seven children have blessed their union, viz.: Burton E., born Oct. 2, 1868; Frederick B., April 18, 1870, died July 16, 1880; Edmond R., born Jan. 21, 1872; Harriet A., Oct. 21, 1874; Florence B., Oct. 12, 1876; Cora B., Aug. 1, 1878, and James P., Jan. 23, 1881. Mr. Franklin in his political views is a pronounced Republican, and in religious faith is a Congregationalist.

*J. T. Graham* is a native of Pittsford, Vt., born Feb. 18, 1824. He grew to manhood in his native city, and at the age of eighteen engaged in the milling business there. In the spring of 1852 he went to California via the Isthmus of Panama. He was detained on the Isthmus one month, and eighty out of 900 passengers that were on board the vessel with him died of sickness. He arrived in San Francisco, Cal., July 8, 1852, and owing to the dry weather could not mine, so he obtained employment in Sacramento in a corn-mill, the owner giving him full charge and \$150 a month. Through Mr. Graham's instrumentality bolting cloths were put into the mill, and flour was manufactured out of wheat raised in

California. Thus he has the honor of making the first flour made in that State—it is so recorded in the city of Washington D. C., to-day. After a few months the city of Sacramento was destroyed by fire and the mill was burned. Mr. Graham then engaged in mining, being very successful. He struck a bonanza, taking out \$8,000 in five weeks. He remained in California until 1853, and on July 24 of that year he embarked on a steamer for Vermont. In the fall of 1853 he came to Iowa, locating in Clayton County, where he bought 400 acres of land and built a saw-mill on the Little Turkey River, which he operated four years, and in the meantime built a flouring mill for Mr. Gillmore of that place. He sold out his interest and came to Marble Rock, Floyd County, Ia., and built a fine flouring mill near there, which he operated one year, and in the spring of 1861 a terrible flood of water and ice swept his mill away, leaving him entirely destitute. With that determination to succeed that had always characterized him, he went at once to Rockford, and, in company with George Wyatt, built a flouring mill on Lime Creek, which he ran nine years; then went to Portland, Ia., and there built a mill, selling it one year later, and in 1871 he returned to Rockford and built his present mill. It has five run of burs, one patent roll, and is one of the most complete mills in the county. From the foregoing it will be seen that Mr. Graham has the honor of having built the first flour-mills in Millville, Clayton County; Marble Rock and Rockford, Floyd County, and Portland, Cerro Gordo County, Ia. On Sept. 16, 1854, Mr. Graham was married to Ann S. Strong, a native of Brandon, Vt. Three children have blessed their union, viz.: Walter S., born June 18, 1855; Carrie A., June 20, 1861, and Frank, Sept. 16, 1863. Mr. Graham owns 270 acres of fine land, and a beautiful residence, which is a great contrast to the little cabin to which he brought his young wife in 1854. In politics he is a Republican.

*Oscar J. Green* was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and became a resident of Floyd County, Iowa, in 1865. He located at once in Rockford Township, where he followed farming until five years ago, when failing health compelled him to discontinue the arduous duties of farm life. He sold his land and moved into the town of Rockford, where he has resided since. He was married Nov. 13, 1860, to Adeline Clark, who was born in New York, Oct. 30, 1837. They have one child, a daughter, Grace, born July 29, 1866. Mr. Green's father was born in the State of New York, Jan. 24, 1797, and died there Aug. 15, 1870, at the age of seventy-

four years. His mother is a native of Rhode Island, born in 1799, and is now residing with her daughter, Mrs. Elms, in Floyd County. In his political views Mr. Green is a Republican. Mrs. Green is a member of the Congregational church.

*W. J. Green* was born in the town of Berlin, Berkshire County, N. Y., May 6, 1815. When fourteen years of age he left his native place, and went to Williamstown, Mass., where he worked in a woolen factory, manufacturing satinets, about four years; then went to Stephentown, N. Y., where he attended school one year, and at the age of nineteen went to Rowe, Mass.; worked in a woolen factory there six months, attended school at Stephentown the following winter, and in 1837 removed to Barry, Ill. He returned to New York eighteen months later, and worked at his former business one year; then purchased an interest in a wool-carding and cloth-dressing establishment, which was destroyed by fire in 1841. He rebuilt his factory, and in 1843 sold it and went to Massachusetts, where he remained two years, then spent six months in South Coventry, Conn. Returning to Massachusetts, he purchased an interest in a cloth factory, selling out in one year. In 1851 he came West, locating in Janesville, Wis., and in 1854 he settled in Floyd County. When he came to Iowa he settled on the farm which he now owns, on section township 95. He first entered 160 acres in 1854, and the following spring an eighty adjoining. They erected a log cabin, in which they lived six years. His tools were a common ax, a saw and a hammer. He built this cabin during the Indian troubles near Clear Lake. When he moved into his cabin the settlers were camped all about it. While this was in process of construction he and his family lived in their wagon three weeks. Such hardships were discouraging, and it was for such men as Mr. Green to grapple with these difficulties when many would have given up and returned to civilization. Mr. Green now has a reward for his zeal and enterprise in the possession of one of the most beautiful homes in the county. He has bought twenty acres adjoining the old farm, on which he has built an elegant residence, and where he is surrounded with every comfort of life. He also owns 160 acres of land on section 16. He was married in 1841 to Harriet Douglas, who died leaving one child—Harriet G. A., born in August, 1842, and married John Reid. In 1845 Mr. Green married Mary Ann Ryndus, in Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Green are prominent members of the Congregational church, in which he is a Deacon. In politics he is a Republican.

*Benjamin Griffin*, one of the representative citizens of Rockford, Ia., was born in Hampsted, near London, England, May 4, 1814. He was married in London in 1833, to Ann Payne, who was born in that city in 1813. Three children blessed this union — William, born in 1834, was killed by a kick in the breast from a horse; Margaret, born in 1835, died in 1862, and Sophia, born in 1848, married Dr. Irwin, now of Rockford. They have two sons — R. P., who is a partner in the drug store, and William. Mr. Griffin came with his family to America, landed at New York, and from there went to Newburg; stopped one month, thence to Albany, where he engaged in the butcher business two years, then came West, locating in Quincy, Ill., in 1837. One year later he removed to Tulla, Mo., where he embarked in the pork and beef packing business until 1842, and in that year returned to his native country. He remained in England ten years, and while there, in 1851, attended the World's Fair at London. In 1852 he returned to the United States, and located near Madison, Wis., where he farmed four years, and in 1862 came to Floyd County, Ia. He spent one year in Charles City, prior to locating in Rockford. Since his residence here he has engaged in the drug business, and has been fairly successful. He formed a partnership with his son-in-law, Dr. Irwin, who died, and his son is now the partner. He is thoroughly versed in pharmacy, and is a skillful and reliable druggist. In his political views he is a Republican, and is a member of the Church of England.

*O. J. Hanson* was born in Norway, July 15, 1835. When fifteen years of age he emigrated to America, landed at Quebec, and from there went to White Water, Wis., where he remained some sixteen years, working a part of the time in the pineries of Michigan. In 1864 he came to Iowa, spent one year in Bradford, then bought a farm in Bremer County, upon which he resided six years, then moved to Clayton County. One year later he sold his farm in the latter county and removed to Rockford Township, Floyd County. He has resided in this township, spending a part of the time in the City of Rockford and the remainder on his farm on section 4. He also owns land on section 30, his possessions altogether amounting to 340 acres of excellent land. He was married July 5, 1860, to Jane White, a native of England, born July 25, 1839. They have seven children — Mary Ann, born in August, 1861; Rosa, in December, 1862; Verena, January, 1865; Elliott in



April, 1867; Gee, in April, 1873; Cora, in January, 1876, and Clarence, in February, 1879. In politics, Mr. Hanson is a pronounced Republican.

*D. A. Hardman*, one of the pioneer children of Iowa, was born in Delaware County, Ia., Dec. 13, 1852, and when a mere baby was brought by his parents to Floyd County. They settled in Rock Grove Township, and D. A. was reared and educated in the common schools of that vicinity; also attended the Osage Seminary two years. On Nov. 11, 1880, he purchased his present farm of sixty acres, on section 28, Rockford Township, which he now has under excellent improvement. He was married March 20, 1880, to Ella Fleanor, who was born in Rock Grove, March 25, 1860. They have one child—Ray, born July 27, 1882. Mr. Hardman is a member of the Baptist church, and in politics is a Republican. His father, David Hardman, was born in Ohio in 1817, and died in Rock Grove Township, Floyd County, April 17, 1882. His mother is a native of Indiana, born in 1819. She is still living on the old homestead.

*S. W. Haven*, furniture dealer, and one of the prominent business men of Rockford, is a native of Ludlow, Windsor County, Vt., born March 3, 1826. He was educated in his native State, and resided there until twenty years of age, when he went to Pennsylvania, and two years later removed to Winnebago County, Ill. He resided there seven years, and in 1855 came to Floyd County, Ia. Since 1856 he has been a resident of Rockford Township. He followed the carpenter's trade chiefly until 1876, when he embarked in his present business, and has met with flattering success. He served as Township Clerk for about ten years, and was elected Justice of the Peace in 1878, and has held the office to the present time. He was married in 1849, to Sarah Jane Knapp, who was born in 1829. Three children have blessed this union, viz.: Ella J., born in September, 1850; Emmett M., March 30, 1854, and Laura O., Jan. 22, 1860. Mr. Haven enlisted Aug. 21, 1862, in the Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and served until Aug. 8, 1865, when he was mustered out at Clinton, Ia. He participated in many of the hard-fought battles of the war, and though often where shot and shell fell thickest, escaped unhurt. He is a member of the regular Baptist church, and in politics is a Republican, and a Prohibitionist.

*Charles Howell* was born at Chester, Orange County, N. Y., Sept. 7, 1857. His father was a physician of considerable reputation, and a man of excellent character. He married Ruth A. Davis, and to them five children were born, four girls and one boy, Charles being the third child. His parents died while he was young. He and one of his sisters were cared for by an uncle and aunt who resided on a stock farm, situated eight miles from Newburg, on the Newburg & Goshen Turnpike. He received a liberal English education, and lived with his uncle until his uncle's decease, which occurred Dec. 13, 1877. The next two years his attention was turned to farming; but becoming imbued with a desire to locate West, he left his native State May 1, 1880, at the age of twenty-two, and proceeded to the western part of Nebraska, where he spent several months among the great stock ranches. From Nebraska he returned to New York, and in passing through Iowa made a short sojourn in Des Moines, where he became so impressed with the business inducements Iowa offered young men, that he remained in his native State but three months, when he returned to Iowa, Apr. 1, 1881, and engaged in butter-making for A. F. Bingham at Jesup, Buchanan County. From Jesup he proceeded to Rockford, Floyd County, and on Jan. 20, 1882, leased E. Price's creamery and opened the same the following season for the manufacture of butter, making a gilt-edged article, which is shipped to the Eastern markets.

*T. S. Hubbard* was born in Erie County, N. Y., July 7, 1850. He came to Rockford, Ia., in 1878, from Ogle County, Ill., where he located in 1866. He rented land the first year of his residence here, then bought 198 acres on section 3, this township, taking possession Oct. 1, 1878. He has lived upon this land since, and it is now one of the finest cultivated farms in this section. He was married Jan. 9, 1872, to Mary E. Hayes, who was born in Ogle County, Ill., Dec. 23, 1853. Four children have been born of their union, viz.: Arthur (deceased), Eva, Minnie E., and Edna F. Mr. Hubbard is a Republican in politics and a strong supporter of that party.

*Dwight E. Johnson* was born in New Haven, Conn., April 1, 1831. His father died when he was four years old, and he went to live with his grandfather, who resided on a farm near the city of New Haven. He remained with him, attending school and assisting on the farm, until 1848, and from that time until 1853 engaged

in railroading and sailing from New Haven to the West Indies. In the fall of the latter year he emigrated to Rockford, Ill., where he spent four years as clerk in a general store, then returned to Connecticut and was married there to Harriet A. Clarke, daughter of Alfred Clarke, of West Haven, Conn. In March, 1857, Mr. Johnson settled in Rockford, Iowa, and has since resided here with the exception of six months spent at Mason City, one of her most honored and respected citizens. He embarked in the mercantile business here in company with Mr. Charles Smith, remaining with him five years, when R. C. Mathews purchased Mr. Smith's interest and the business was conducted under the firm name of Johnson & Mathews five years. Mr. Johnson then disposed of his stock to R. N. Mathews, father of his former partner, and since engaged in the real estate and stock-growing business. He now owns 2,300 acres in Floyd and Cerro Gordo counties, besides a large interest in the town property of Rockford. His family consists of three children—Frederick C., born Jan., 1, 1858; Wilbert D., Nov. 10, 1861, and Alfred N., Oct. 31, 1866. The two former are engaged in the hardware business in this city and Alfred is attending school. Mrs. Johnson is a member of the Episcopal church, and politically he is a Democrat.

*T. S. Kelso* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 22, 1820, and was there reared and educated. In 1857 he emigrated to Wisconsin, locating in Prairie Du Chien, where he resided fifteen years, and in 1872 came to Rockford, Ia. He settled upon a farm in this township and now owns 400 acres of fine land on sections 6 and 29. He is extensively engaged in farming and makes a specialty of raising fine stock, owning some of the finest breeds in the county, including some choice Kentucky thoroughbreds. He was married in 1842 to Lorana Van Etten, in Oswego County, N. Y., where she was born Aug. 19, 1821. Three children have blessed their union, viz.: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Ogden Ruggles, born Oct. 12, 1844; Georgie A., born in October, 1847, married O. E. Miller, and Emma, born Nov. 7, 1855, married H. L. Mitchell. Mr. Kelso had a narrow escape from a tornado, which passed over this region, June 24, 1882. The storm struck the Congregational church, completely demolishing it, and thus spent its fury before reaching his dwelling. But it dealt less gently with his barn, which was completely unroofed and the shingles scattered to the four winds of heaven. Mr. Kelso is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*Smith Kimball* is a native of Erie County, N. Y., born Mar. 10, 1820, and made that place his home until 1872, being engaged extensively in farming, and also conducting a dairy. In 1854 he made a trip to Illinois, and resided near Chicago three years, then returned to New York. In 1872 he came to Iowa, locating in Rockford Township, where he has remained since, an honored and respected citizen. He owns eighty acres of land in Ulster Township, besides his farm of 160 acres on section 36, Rockford Township. He was married in March, 1851, in his native State to Hannah Parker, who was born in New York in 1822, and died there on Mar. 18, 1861. He was married to his present wife, Jane Leigh, on June 17, 1862. Mr. Kimball is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*Jacob R. Knapp* was born in Winnebago County, Ill., Mar. 9, 1840, and lived there until he was sixteen years old when he came to Rockford, Floyd County, Ia., and has resided here since. He served four years and four months in the late Rebellion having enlisted in the Ninth Iowa Regiment Volunteer Infantry, and also served in the Third Iowa Battery, as a gunner. He served under Captains Hayden, Melvin C. Wright and O. H. Lyon. He participated in many of the hard-fought battles of the war, thirteen in number, among them Pea Ridge, Helena, Arkansas Post, Pemberton and others. He was mustered out with his comrades at Davenport, Ia., and came home to Rockford, where he was married Sept. 22, 1867, to Cynthia De Wolf, who was born June 6, 1850. The fruit of this marriage is three children—Laura, born Sept. 21, 1868, died Mar. 23, 1869; Burton, born Aug. 18, 1873, died Oct. 10, 1873, and Owen A., born May 13, 1879. Mr. Knapp owns a finely cultivated farm of 120 acres on section 33, Rockford Township, and in politics is a Republican.

*Charles Leigh*, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford, is a native of New York State, born May 21, 1839. From New York he went to McKean County, Pa., where he resided five years, engaged in the drug business, and in June, 1876, came to Rockford, Floyd County. He has resided here since with the exception of nine months during the year 1881, which he spent in Pennsylvania. Mr. Leigh has ever been active in any project that promised progression to his adopted city, and has done much for her improvement. In 1876 he erected a large stone house on the corner of what is now known as Leigh's Block, and in 1878 built in the same block Leigh's Hall, and later, in 1879 a building now occupied as a drug store, and another now used as a saloon. Besides his

city property he owns 140 acres of fine land in this township. He was married July 4, 1867, to Florence Davis, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1850. They have one child—Leon, born July 16, 1870. In his political views he is a Republican, and has served as a member of the City Council.

*Robert Lindon*, grain and stock dealer, Rockford, Ia., was born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, May 9, 1840. He emigrated to the United States in September, 1862, landing at Boston, Mass., and from there went at once to New York, thence to Watertown, Wis. He was married there in 1865 to Miss Addie Vanness, who was born in New York State in 1840. Mr. Lindon has been prominently identified with the grain and stock business of Wisconsin and Iowa for the past twenty years, and is at present managing a large grain elevator at Rockford, in company with D. D. Cutler. He is a member of the Episcopal church, and in politics is a strong supporter of the Democratic party. Mr. Lindon has been a resident of Floyd County for the past ten years.

*Elijah Longbotham* was born in the town of Paris, Grant County, Wis., June 14, 1843. He came to Rockford Township, Floyd County, Ia., on May 2, 1877, and settled on his present farm of 160 acres, on section 30. He is extensively engaged in grain and stock raising, and his farm is one of the finest in this vicinity. On Dec. 25, 1869, he was united in marriage with Celia H. Taylor, likewise a native of Paris, Wis., born Mar. 11, 1846. Two children have blessed this union, viz.: Julia A., born Oct. 14, 1870, and Thomas O., Nov. 7, 1872. Mr. Longbotham was reared in the Republican school of politics and is still a strong adherent to the principles of that party.

*Daniel McEwen* was born in Johnstown, Fulton County, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1814, and was there reared and educated. When twenty-one years of age he went to London, Canada West, and remained there eleven years, engaged principally in milling. From London he emigrated to Belvidere, Boone County, Ill., thence in 1868 to Ogle County, that State. In 1873 he located in Marshalltown, Ia.; remained there five years, then came to Rockford Township, Floyd County. He purchased 140 acres on sections 11 and 12 and has resided there ever since. His farm is under excellent improvement and thoroughly stocked. He was married Nov. 22, 1838, to Carolina M. Odell, in London, Canada, where she was born, Aug. 12, 1816. Their union has been blessed with the following named children: John L., born Mar. 10, 1840; Joseph A., July 30, 1842;

James E., born Sept. 10, 1846, died Feb. 3, 1865, and Charles F., Aug. 10, 1851. The family were formerly members of the Presbyterian church but are now members of the Methodist. In his political views Mr. McEwen is a strong Republican.

*Maurice McKenna* was born in Springfield, Mass., May 31, 1844. His parents were natives of the County of Kerry, Ireland, from which country they emigrated in 1853. In 1833 they located in Fond du Lac County, Wis. Maurice McKenna studied law in the office of Messrs. Blair & Colman, and also in the office of H. F. Rose, at Fond du Lac, Wis. He was elected, on the Democratic ticket, for three successive terms, Clerk of the Courts of Fond du Lac County, Wis., serving six years in that capacity. He was also Vice-President of the Star Printing Company, in said city. In 1876 he was admitted, in the Fourth Judicial District of the State of Wisconsin, to practice as an attorney at law, and has practiced his profession since. In 1875 he married Miss Nellie Fagan. The fruit of the marriage is two children—Minnie and Nora E. He served in the war of the Rebellion, having been a member of Company I, Thirty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, going out with his regiment, serving chiefly in Mississippi and Tennessee; and having completed his term of service, was, with his comrades, discharged at Milwaukee, Wis., in September, 1864. He has also published a volume of poems. He is now a resident of Rockford, Ia., being a member of the Floyd County bar, and is successfully engaged in the practice of the law at that place.

*C. F. Meyers*, general merchant, Rockford, embarked in the produce business at this place in 1872, continuing until 1881, when he added to that a stock of general merchandise, and by strict attention to business, and by keeping on hand a full and complete line of goods to meet the demands of his customers, has succeeded in building up a fine trade. A native of Louisville, Ky., he was born Feb. 22, 1849, and at an early age moved with his parents to Evansville, Ind., where he was reared and educated. When fifteen years old he returned to his native city, and there learned the jeweler's trade, and four years afterward went to St. Louis, Mo., where he spent one year, working at his trade; thence to Henderson, Ky. He clerked in a hardware store at that place three years, and in 1872 located in Rockford, Ia., where he has been actively identified with the business interest since. On Nov. 3, 1876, he was united in marriage with Amanda Baker, a native of Indiana County, Pa. They have two children—Blanche, born

March 1, 1878, and C. F., Nov. 3, 1880. Mr. Meyers is a Democrat in his political views.

*Clark E. Mitchell*, son of H. W. Mitchell, is a native of Illinois, born in Stephenson County, Jan. 17, 1850. When four years old he moved with his father to Portage County, Wis., and resided there eleven years. In 1865 the family settled in Floyd County, Ia., and Clark E. has made Rockford Township his home principally since. In 1877 his father moved to Stephens Point, Wis., where he is now engaged in the lumber traffic. The subject of this sketch is one of a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters, viz.: Z. T., a resident of Rockford, Ia.; H. L., a farmer in Union Township; J. S., in business with his father in Wisconsin; Frank H., conducting a large farm at Fargo, D. T.; Mary L., residing in Randolph, Wis., and Anna, living with her father. Mr. C. E. Mitchell was married Oct. 6, 1874, to Blanche E. Jackson, who was born in Beloit, Wis., Apr. 15, 1851. They have two children—Maud, born Nov. 3, 1876, and Lavantia, Jan. 14, 1880. Mr. Mitchell owns a fine farm of 640 acres on sections 21 and 22, and is classed with the prominent agriculturists and stock-breeders of Floyd County. Politically he is a Democrat.

*E. R. Moore*, a prominent farmer and stock-breeder of Floyd County, was born in the State of Pennsylvania, Oct. 28, 1841. He emigrated with his parents to Erie County, N. Y., in 1842, and lived there until 1875, when he came West, locating in Ogle County, Ill. One year later he came to Floyd County, Ia., and settled in Rockford Township. The first year of his residence here he rented land of S. Kimball, then purchased 159 acres on section 25, where he still resides. On Oct. 29, 1866, he married Elody A. Cogswell, who was born in Erie County, N. Y., June 3, 1847. Three children have blessed this union—Addie, born Oct. 2, 1867; Jennie E., born Feb. 12, 1872, died Feb. 28, 1874, and Maud, born July 16, 1878. Politically Mr. Moore favors the Republican party.

*Thomas Parsons* was born March 1, 1832, in England, and was reared and educated in his native country. He was married there Sept. 24, 1854, to Hannah Britnell, who died in McGregor, Ia., Oct. 22, 1844. Four children blessed their union, viz.: Clara J., born Oct. 14, 1855; Mary A., born Oct. 20, 1857, died Dec. 1, 1857; Mary M., born June 12, 1859, died April 27, 1867, and Abbie M., born July 14, 1861. Mr. Parsons was married the second time on May 12, 1865, to Mary Hazlett, who was born in Ireland, May 13, 1839. They have had eight children—Ella, born March

26, 1866; Jennie, born Aug. 13, 1867, died April 21, 1868; George A., born March 8, 1869; Effie, Jan. 18, 1871; Lottie, June 2, 1873; Edith M., Aug. 16, 1875; Willie, Oct. 3, 1877, and Frederick Garfield, Oct. 23, 1881. Mr. Parsons emigrated to America in 1853; landed at New York, spent two weeks in Fulton County, that State, then emigrated to Sauk County, Wis., where he remained eight years; then to Columbia County, Wis., and from there to McGregor, Ia. He lived in that city eleven years, then came to Floyd County, settling upon his present farm of 192½ acres on section 34, Rockford Township. His land is under excellent improvement, and thoroughly stocked. In politics he is a pronounced Republican.

*Elmer A. Riche* was born in Rockford, Ill., April 30, 1856, a son of John Riche, a native of Franklin County, Ind., born Oct. 27, 1821, and Julia (Wilkins) Riche, who was born in Addison County, N. Y., Jan. 26, 1828. John Riche lived in his native State until fifteen years of age, when he went with his father to Berrien County, Mich., and from there to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1840. He followed farming there until October, 1879, when he moved to Rockford Township, Floyd County, Ia., and settled on section 31. He owns 220 acres of finely cultivated land. Mr. and Mrs. J. Riche have been blessed with eleven children, viz.: Sarah H., born Nov. 12, 1849; Ella Maria, born Sept. 4, 1851, was killed by a pile of lumber falling upon her June 29, 1854; Emma M., born May 4, 1855, died May 13 of that year; Elmer A., born April 30, 1856; Lyman W., born Feb. 23, 1859, died March 9, 1859; Frank H., born March 8, 1861, died the 21st of that month; Francis M., born July 18, 1864; Mertie R., Aug. 19, 1867; Charles H., May 22, 1869; Alonzo C., born June 29, 1871, died June 16, 1873; Hattie L., born Oct. 7, 1872, died Feb. 8, 1874. Mr. Riche and wife are prominent members of the M. E. church. The subject of this memoir was educated in the district schools of Illinois, where he lived until he came with his father to Iowa, in 1879. He was married Aug. 14, 1879, to Marian Patterson, who was born in Winnebago County, Ill., Oct. 21, 1855. They have one child—Alice Julia, born Oct. 19, 1880. They are members of the M. E. church, and politically he is a strong Republican. *also*

*O. N. Robbins* is a native of Washtenaw County, Mich., born April 9, 1830, and when only one year old he went with his parents to Livingston County, N. Y., where he resided until 1844,



then removed to Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill. In 1855 he came to Floyd County, locating in Charles City, where he remained one year, and in 1856 settled in Rockford Township, where he has since resided. He engaged in farming and staging from Charles City, Rudd and other points until the railroad was built through this place, and since then has carried on the livery business. He has always been an active politician, and gives his support to the Republican party, and prior to the organization of that party was a Whig. He was married in 1854 to Emeline Knapp, who was born in 1826, and died in 1879, having been the mother of two children—Arthur, born in 1856, and Louie born in 1864, died in 1871. Mr. Robbins's father, Benjamin, was born in Fredford, Vt., in 1798, and is now living with his son in Rockford, Ia. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. There are four generations now living at the house of O. N. Robbins, in Rockford. He rode a team of fifty-two span of horses in 1844, at Geneseo, N. Y., during the campaign of Henry Clay, when he made a speech at that place.

*C. M. Roberts* is a native of Canada, born Aug. 20, 1855. He came to Iowa in 1866, locating in Cedar Falls, where he resided fourteen years, and in 1880 came to Rockford, Floyd County. He purchased six town lots near the the B., C. R. & N. R. R. depot where he erected a nice comfortable residence, and is still residing. He is now employed with Robert Eggert in the erection of a paper-mill on the Shell Rock River, in South Rockford. He married Mary Sweetser, who was born in Portland, Me., Aug. 2, 1855. Two children have blessed this union, viz.:—Everard M., born Sept. 6, 1878, and Harry E., Aug. 12, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are consistent members of the Methodist church, and politically he is a Republican. He is a man of sober and industrious habits, and is much respected in the community in which he lives.

*O. M. Ruggles* one of the prominent citizens of Rockford Township, was born in Broome County, N. Y., April 23, 1838. When sixteen years of age he left his native State and went to Fond du Lac, Wis., where he resided eight years, attending school. He went to Minnesota where he read and practiced law two years, and in 1864 enlisted in the Sixteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, engaging in many a hard-fought battle. He was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and was at the battle of Whippie Swamp, at the taking of Columbia, S. C., and at Raleigh, N. C., when peace was declared. After

the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin, and taught school at Prairie du Chien four years. He was married in 1867 to Elizabeth Kelso, a native of Otsego County, N. Y., born Oct. 7, 1843. The fruit of this marriage is six children—Almira, born Aug. 30, 1868; Cora, June 24, 1870; Grace, Feb. 7, 1872; Robert G., March 19, 1875; Helen, Nov. 11, 1878, and Wallace S., March 1, 1882. Mr. Ruggles owns a finely cultivated farm on sections 5, 7 and 8, Rockford Township, consisting of 215 acres. He is a Democrat in his political views, and has held the office of Township Trustee. He is a member of the Congregational church at Prairie du Chien.

*Augustus Schroeder* was born in the province of Mecklinburg-Schwerin, Germany, Aug. 28, 1845. He was reared and educated there, and on Sept. 27, 1869, embarked for America. He landed at the city of New York, and from there went to Beloit, Wis., which was his home for ten years. He then removed to St. Louis, Mo., resided there four months; thence to Butler County, Iowa, in 1879. In 1881 he located in Rockford, Iowa, where he has resided since, an honored and respected citizen. Mr. Schroeder has followed the wagon-maker's trade for the past nineteen years. He was married in his native country to Johannah Brandt, Aug. 3, 1868. She was born in Germany, May 1, 1844. Five children have blessed this union, viz.: Alfred F., born Nov. 17, 1869; Emma, July 21, 1872; Edward, Sept. 5, 1874; Louisa, Sept. 27, 1876; and Otto, Aug. 10, 1880. Mr. Schroeder is a member of the Lutheran church, and in politics is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*H. C. Scott*, dealer in agricultural implements, Rockford, Ia., was born in Richland County, O., June 23, 1827. When eight years of age he went with his father to Michigan, resided there two years, thence to Rockford, Ill., in 1838, traveling with ox teams all the way. He engaged in farming in Illinois until October, 1875, when he came to Floyd County, locating in Charles City. In March, 1876, he settled in Rockford Township, purchasing 200 acres of fine land on section 33, which he farmed one year; then sold, and moved into the city of Rockford, in order to facilitate the educational advantages of his children. He built a nice residence here, where he has for the past six years dealt in agricultural implements. He was married on Dec. 23, 1850, to Mary C. Muffitt, a native of New York, born in 1833. Seven children have been born unto them—Horace T., Sophronia, William H., Hattie E., C. A., Estella and Jessie. Mr. Scott is a prominent

member of the I. O. O. F. and A. F. & A. M. fraternities of Rockford, and is at present serving in the City Council. Politically he is a Republican.

*L. A. Scott*, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford Township, was born in Erie County, N. Y., Aug. 9, 1832. He resided there until 1853, and in that year emigrated to Columbia County, that State, where he remained thirteen years, then came to Rockford, Ia., and has resided here since. Upon coming to this city he erected a large stone storehouse, 40 x 23 feet, on Platt street, which he subsequently sold to Isaac Hall. He also built the first and only slaughter house in Rockford. In the year 1871 he embarked in the butcher business and also conducted a grocery store and saloon a short time. He engaged in the hardware business one year, and for the past three years has packed butter for various firms in Rockford. He was married in 1879 to Minnie Graves. Politically he favors the Republican party.

*Oren R. Shaw*, one of the prominent farmers of Rockford Township, is a native of Oneida County, N. Y., born in the town of Marsey on March 13, 1831. He lived there until 1853 when he moved to Lake County, Ill., thence in 1864 to Floyd County, Ia. He settled on section 30, Rockford Township, where he owns a finely improved farm of 173 acres. He was married to Sarah J. Maynard on Sept. 20, 1860. She was born in Cheshire County, N. H., Feb. 11, 1836. They have one child—Jessie Augusta, born Oct. 4, 1866. The family are members of the M. E. church. In politics Mr. Shaw is a Republican, and has held many of the township offices, among them those of Justice of the Peace and School Director, and in each instance has served with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his constituents.

*Albert Collins*, Deputy Postmaster, Rockford, Ia., was born in Otsego County, N. Y., Dec. 21, 1843. When twelve years of age he came West with his parents, locating in Madison, Wis.; thence, in 1856, to Lake County, Ill. They resided there until the fall of 1868, then removed to Floyd County, Ia., settling in Rockford Township, where the father died in December, 1879. His mother is still a resident of Floyd County. Mr. Albert Collins enlisted June 7, 1864, in Company F, Thirty-eighth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served one year. He was wounded at Petersburg, Va., on picket line, Jan. 3, 1865, losing his left arm. He was honorably discharged at Washington, D. C., April 17, 1865. He returned to Illinois, then his home, and resided there until 1868,

then became a resident of Rockford, Ia. He has been acting Deputy Postmaster most of the time since. He was married at Shell Rock, Ia., Sept. 12, 1872, to Ellen L. Palmer, a native of Castleton, Vt., born May 7, 1852. In politics Mr. Collins is a strong supporter of the Republican party.

*T. P. Sutton* was born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Nov. 19, 1840. His father died when he was ten years old, and the following year he moved with his mother to Dodge County, Wis. He was the fourth child of a family of six children. They resided in Dodge County three years, then removed to Jackson County, and in 1870 he came to Floyd County, Ia., where he had previously purchased the south half of section 32, Rockford Township. He now owns 480 acres of finely cultivated land, and is recognized as one of Floyd County's most prominent farmers and stock-growers. He was married July 27, 1865, to C. J. Wright, who was born in Portland, Me., May 4, 1845. He is a Republican in his political views.

*Charles Watkins* was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., Oct. 29, 1826. At the age of eight years he left his native State, and with his father emigrated to Ohio, where he lived until 1849, then came with a younger brother to Iowa, locating in Clayton County. He engaged in farming in Farmersburg Township, and also taught school, an occupation he had previously followed in Ohio. His brother, James Watkins, still resides in Clayton County. In 1869 he settled in Rockford Township, Floyd County, where he has been extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising since, and has also taught two winter terms of school. He was married in 1852 in Ohio to Delia Stephens, a native of New Hampshire, born in 1830. Nine children have been born of this union, three sons and six daughters, viz.: Ermina, born in 1853 (married Judson Quackenbush); Charlie, in 1856; George D., in 1858; Jared, in 1859; Hannah, in 1862; Delia, in 1865; Blanche, in 1867; Grace, in 1870, and Mabel, in 1872. Mr. Watkins's parents came with him to Clayton County in 1852, where his father died in 1867. His mother resides in Monona, Ia. In his politics he is a Democrat.

*John W. Wood* was born in Canada, June 19, 1835, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1842, and to Jones County, Ia., in 1854. John W. resided there two years, then returned to Illinois, and in 1863 returned to Iowa, locating near Rudd, Floyd County. He remained there until 1879, when he settled on section 18, Rockford Township, where he purchased an excellent farm and has re-

sided since. He owns 240 acres of fine land, well improved. He married Hannah Tittle, a native of the State of Pennsylvania, born April 6, 1836. Their union has been blessed with eleven children, all living—Israel L., David S., Delbert A., Frank U., Homer Wesley, Lydia Alice, Daniel Jackson, Lottie Belle, Hester Ann, Guy H. and Francis Roy. Mr. Wood is the present Road Master in District No. 9, and politically he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Close Communion Baptist church.

*S. W. Woodhouse* was born in Kenosha County, Wis., Jan. 11, 1856, and lived there until 1872, when he came to Rockford Township, Floyd County, Ia. His father died when he was eleven years old. His early education was limited, being received at a common district school in Kenosha County, Wis. He was Cashier of A. L. Plummer's bank about three years; read law in Rockford and passed his examination before Hon. R. G. Reiniger, of Charles City, and was admitted to the bar Sept. 20, 1880; since that time he has been practicing law in Rockford. He was married Oct. 30, 1878, to Flora E. Campbell, a native of Eldon, Victoria County, Canada West, born Oct. 26, 1855, of Scotch parentage. She was left an orphan when seven years old, and was taken and educated by her grandparents. She came to Iowa in 1877, and at the time of her marriage was engaged in teaching school. They have one child—James Stewart, born Nov. 17, 1879. Politically Mr. Woodhouse is a Republican.

*Ambrose S. Wright* was born in New York, Aug. 17, 1837. He came to Illinois in the spring of 1856, and to Floyd County, Ia., in the spring of 1862. He settled first on section 30, Rockford Township, and resided there until 1873, when he went to Nora Springs. Eighteen months later he settled upon his present farm on section 30, Rockford Township. He owns 480 acres of finely cultivated land and is classed with the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of Floyd County. He was married March 7, 1866, to Elizabeth Cook, a native of Oswego County, N. Y., born Dec. 10, 1836. They have one child, a daughter—Edith, born May 14, 1872. Mr. Wright has held the office of School Director for the past five years, and politically is a strong Republican. He is a prominent member of the Baptist church and is Superintendent of the Sabbath-school. His father, Spencer Wright, was born in Massachusetts in 1805, and in 1862 emigrated to Floyd County, Ia., where he died Aug. 9, 1866. He was a man of sterling Christian integrity, and although he had been a resident of the county for only a short time his loss

was deeply felt by the community. His widow married Wm. Wagner in 1870, and is a resident of Rock Grove Township.

*George Wyatt* was born in Danville, Livingston County, N. Y., April 1, 1815. He resided there until 1836, when he came West, locating in Michigan, where he engaged in clerking nine months; then went to Fort Defiance, O., and took charge of a stock of goods for Ellis & Co. one year, and in 1838 removed to McHenry County, Ill. He was there pioneering until 1841, then went to Fort Winnebago, Wis., where he farmed some time, then took a contract to supply the fort with wood and hay for eight months. He was subsequently hired by the American Fur Company to take care of the trading post there, and acted in that capacity eighteen months. In 1844 he was instrumental in organizing Portage County, Wis., for judicial purposes, and was appointed Clerk of the District Court by the District Judge, and by the people was elected Register of Deeds and Clerk of the Commissioners' Court. He also held the offices of Postmaster and Notary Public. From 1844 to 1847 he engaged in the lumber traffic with Ed Houghton, and in the latter year sold out and returned to Winnebago County, Ill., where he farmed until 1849, then went to Rockford, Ill. He was employed on the police force there until 1852, and also served as City Collector and Assessor. In August, 1852, he went to California, where he remained fifteen months, then returned to Beloit, Wis., and in 1854 he settled in Floyd County, Ia., and in company with Milo Gilbert erected a double log cabin on the site of the present town of Charles City. The two families spent the winter there, and in the spring of 1855 Mr. Wyatt went into the land-office business, which he followed two years, and during that time selected the swamp land of the county under a commission from the judge, and in the spring of 1856 he selected a site and laid out the present town of Rockford, giving it its name. Mr. Wyatt continued in the land-office business until 1858, when he became afflicted with rheumatism, and still suffers from that disease. In 1863 he opened the Wyatt House in Rockford, of which he is still proprietor. He was married in October, 1858, in Rockford, Ill., to Mercy Smith, who was born in Livingston County, N. Y., in 1824. They have seven children, five living — Emma (now Mrs. L. B. Dumbolton), born in 1852; Carrie, in 1853 (married LeRoy Berton); Charles, born in 1854; William W., in 1859, and Henry, in 1865. Mr. Wyatt and wife are prominent and respected members of the Congregational church, and in politics he is a Republican.

*Alexander Young*, one of the prominent citizens of Rockford Township, was born in the County of Down, Ireland, Nov. 30, 1854. In 1871 he left his native country for America, landed at New York City, and from there came direct to Rochelle, Ill., where he resided until February, 1882, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., locating in Rockford Township. He bought eighty acres of land on section 13, which he has under good cultivation and well stocked. He was married Dec. 22, 1876, to Mary J. Albee, in Rockford, Ill. She is a native of the town of Red Jacket, N. Y., born Nov. 14, 1853. They have one child—William Howard, born May 6, 1879. Mrs. Young is a member of the M. E. church, and is an estimable Christian woman. In his political views he is a strong Republican.



## ROCK GROVE TOWNSHIP.

Rock Grove Township derived its name from a ponderous boulder now in the public park, in the city of Nora Springs. This township is the northwestern one of Floyd County. It is bounded on the north by Union Township, in Mitchell County, on the east by the Township of Rudd, on the south by the Township of Rockford, and on the west by the Township of Portland, in Cerro Gordo County. It is seven miles long from north to south, and the north half is six miles wide, from east to west. From the east side of the south half a strip one half a mile in width was in 1870 shorn from her territory and attached to the Township of Rudd. This township was originally surveyed in 1853 and 1854, into sections and subdivisions of sections, by Alexander Anderson, who now lives in the county of Dubuque, and who was at that time a surveyor in the employment of the Government of the United States. Anderson was a very active and agreeable gentleman, and one whose work when done *was finished*. There are still a great many sectional mounds to be seen, that were thrown up with Anderson's spades, and a few corner stakes have escaped the prairie fires and the decay of time, but nearly all have passed away, and those of a more enduring character have been planted in their places.

There are about seven sections of good timber in Rock Grove Township with large quantities of younger groves springing up on the outskirts of that of older growths. The largest body of this timber is on the Shell Rock River, which runs three miles in the township. Other beautiful groves of timber are to be found on Floyd Creek, which threads the entire township from north to south.

There are four excellent water-powers on the Shell Rock River, in Rock Grove Township, two of which are now well improved.

### RESOURCES.

A township superior to Rock Grove would be hard to find. It has a rich deep soil under laid with a sub-soil of clay, and from this clay a superior quality of brick has been made for years—specimens of which can be seen pointing their red fingers through the roofs of numerous dwellings for a region of twenty miles



around. No superior quarries of stone have been found within the boundary lines of Rock Grove Township. Occasionally a desirable layer of sandstone protrudes from the high bluffs that skirt the river, but they are so deeply imbedded beneath an immense mass of shale, and worthless weight, as to forbid the expense which would be incurred in reaching down after them. A fair quality of stone, irregular in layers and form, is found in abundance lining the entire banks and beds of the streams, and which answer well the ordinary purpose for which stone was intended, not the least of which is the production of a very superior quality of lime.

#### SETTLEMENT.

Rock Grove Township, like the entire county, was originally settled with a hardy race of industrious and intelligent pioneers, who were either direct from the New England States, or had drifted along from one State to another, on or near the same parallel of latitude, until they reached the Shell Rock Valley. A few families came here from the Middle and Southern States, but the terrible winters of 1856 and 1857 convinced them that this was no place for tender plants,—or planters,—and their song was soon changed from "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," to "Carry me back to Old Virginia." Those who came here at first were generally poor, and these were divided into five classes: 1. That class who had always been poor and had been kept under by the aristocrats of the older States, but who had broken loose from their semi-servitude and come West determined to have homes that they could call their own. 2. That class who had once been well off, but by speculation, misplaced confidence, or unavoidable casualties had lost all, and who had come West determined to rally again—and again retrieve their lost fortunes. 3. That class that never had but little, and did not know what to do with what little they had, and who never did, and never can, stand civilization, always ready to sell for a small consideration, and move on with the bears and buffaloes toward the decoy fields nearer the setting sun. 4. That class who always thought they were getting rich because they were getting an advanced price over the original cost, and at the same time were selling their property for less than one half its real value. 5. That class of dreaming adventurers who would want to move on, and change locations, even were they in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The first white man who ever made a claim to the fertile acres of Rock Grove Township was William D. Gray, who in August, 1852, with his gun on his shoulder, leisurely walked around the beautiful place now owned and occupied by E. R. Heiz, and, when he had finished his journey, to himself he said: "On the south-west quarter of section 16, in township 96 north, of range 18 west, will I build my cabin and the 'bloody- Injuns' shall not prevail against me."

On the heels of Gray came Dan Whitesell, who selected the claim where he now resides. In 1853 he broke the first acre of ground ever broken in Rock Grove Township. He turned over sixteen acres on section 19, to the sweet kisses of the sun, and planted them with the first corn ever planted in the township. This is not the Daniel who went into the lion's den, but it is the Daniel who entered the den of wolves and bears, who chased the buffaloes and deer into their jungles, and the Daniel who tamed the Sioux and Winnebagoes.

Anthony Overacker came to Rock Grove in 1852, and made claim to 160 acres of prairie land, and about the same quantity of timber, right in the center of the grove. In 1854 he divided his claim and sold it in equal parts to William Workman and Edson Gaylord. He sold for a mere song. An acre might be selected on either place that would to-day sell for more money than he got for the whole plantation. The property he sold here is worth to-day \$20,000. But he wanted to "go West," and West he went, away out in the then wilds of Wright County, in this State, taking with him the first white baby that was ever born in Rock Grove Township. Anthony was a good-natured, honest, fat, lazy fellow, without any politics or much religion.

Rev. John Knouse came here from Ohio ~~here~~ the year of 1853, and made his choice on sections 13 and 14. ~~min~~ He was a peculiar and remarkable man. He was built "from the ground up," like a lion, and as active as a cat. He alternately farmed and preached. For many years he was about the only preacher in this section of the country. His church was the log school-house, since burned down, near the residence of Edson Gaylord. His pulpit was a dry-goods box, and the pews were puncheons, split and hewed from the native forest trees. His congregation was everybody. When the time for service came Knouse was always on hand, and his old gray was hitched to the tree by the school-house. He

made no pretensions to oratory, and yet he was a natural orator, and, when he felt just right, would preach a sermon and make a prayer that would start the shingles right off the roof of the old school-house. His daughter Sarah, a fine girl about twenty years of age, died in 1854, and filled the second grave ever made in the township. About eighteen years since, Knouse sold his fine farm for a moderate price to Michael Foothman, and went to Floyd. He remained there nearly two years and moved with his family to Kansas. In the summer of 1874 the grasshoppers in Kansas served a notice on him to leave, and he returned to visit his friends on the "old stamping grounds." He was in politics a Republican, and religiously he was a member of the United Brethren church.

Joseph Henry came from Michigan to Rock Grove in 1853, and made his selection on sections 8, 16 and 17. He was a hard-working man, but had a roving disposition. In 1859 he sold eighty acres of his fine farm to Titus Wray, and the balance to Joseph Slater, of New Jersey, it being the same place now in part occupied by J. C. Knapp. The Kansas fever swept him off, and away he went. From Kansas he went to Oregon, from Oregon to Delta Touchet, in Washington Territory, where he resided when last heard from with a broken-down constitution, and but little he can call his own. His history is one which should be read by all who contemplate leaving Iowa to find a better home. In politics he was a Republican.

Abram G. Shroll came to Rock Grove Township with his family in 1854, in company with J. H. Knouse, from Ohio. Shroll made a splendid claim on Flood Creek, on sections 11 and 14. He was a clever, honest German, but did not possess the tact for coining money. From time to time he sold a forty, or a timber tract, from his large claim, until his plantation had dwindled down to less than a quarter section, when he sold the remainder to William G. Robinson and Syhat Bragg, and moved to Dakota. In politics he was a Democrat.

John Gates came here in 1855, and formerly had that part of the farm of John R. Adams that lies nearest Nora Springs. He did not remain here more than one year before he sold his premises to Adams and moved to Union Township, near Marble Rock, where he now resides, the monarch of a large and well-improved farm. In politics he was a Republican.

William Dean, a native of Maine, came in the spring of 1853, and located 160 acres prairie and some timber on section 14. He sold this farm out in 1872, at \$35 an acre, and now lives a mile west

of his original farm. In the same year came William Wagner, settling at Rock Grove City; Edson Gaylord, who now lives a short distance below Nora Springs, between the railroad and the Shell Rock, and David Hardman, who lives on section 21.

#### NAME.

The name of Rock Grove Township is said to have the following origin: Speculators traveling through this region in an early day gave the name Rock Grove to the timber tract around the present Nora Springs, on account of the curious large boulder in its center, and which can now be seen in the street on the south side of the park. The township derived its name from the grove.

#### DRAINAGE.

Rock Grove Township is drained by Shell Rock River and Flood Creek. The Shell Rock enters on section 7, and flowing through the southwestern part, emerges on section 20. Flood Creek flows diagonally through the township, entering on section 19 and leaving on section 13. Other small streams intersect the country and are tributary to these two water-courses.

#### FIRST THINGS.

The first birth in the township was that of a son to Anthony Overacker, in 1852.

The first marriage was that of John Henry and a daughter of Wm. Workman.

The first death was that of Josephine, a young daughter of Benjamin Read, in 1854, at the age of fourteen.

The first religious services in the township were held by Revs. Holbrook, Cooley and other pioneer preachers of the church, in various private houses. The other denominations now having societies at Nora Springs—the Congregationalists, the Baptists, the Christians, the German M. E. and the German Evangelicals—early gained a foothold in the township outside of the village. The United Brethren and the Dunkards also have a few adherents, but there are no church buildings or organizations outside of Nora Springs in Rock Grove.

The first school-house was of logs, and was built on section 7, about one-half mile from Nora Springs, in the fall of 1854. Edson Gaylord assisted in the building of this house, and now has at his residence, as a relic, a stump from which the first log was cut.

This was the first school-house in Floyd County, as well as in Rock Grove Township. The first school was taught the following winter by Sarah Griffith. She was a very good teacher, and pupils came from all parts of the township to her school, which numbered about twenty. This first school-house was not built by regular taxations, but by private subscription. It was accidentally burned the spring after it was built, and a new house was built about eighty rods west of the first one. The first school taught in this building was taken charge of by Richard Armstrong, formerly from New York, and latterly from Muscatine.

The first store in the township was opened at Rock Grove City by F. L. Benedict. It was kept by him two years, beginning in 1856, and then discontinued.

Among the manufacturing interests, we note that Edson Gaylord burned the first lime in the county, in 1854-'5, and started his brickyard in 1860. Since then he has burned the timber from forty acres of land, in making brick. He has made some seasons as many as 200,000 brick, which he has shipped in various directions. Some have gone to Dakota. The two flouring mills, at Rock Grove City and Nora Springs are mentioned on another page. The soap factory east of the depot at Nora Springs was started in 1879 by J. S. Bryant & Co., and discontinued in the fall of 1881.

The first fruit-trees brought to the county were set out on the farm now belonging to Edson Gaylord.

The first Township Trustees were William Wagner and John Cannouse. The first Clerk was John Hunt, afterward Judge Hunt. The first Justice of the Peace was William Dean. The first School Director was Edson Gaylord.

#### BRIDGES.

The first bridge across the Shell Rock in Rock Grove Township was built by the county in 1863. The bridge was wanted by both Nora Springs and Rock Grove City, and considerable feeling was manifested on both sides. Petitions and remonstrances were circulated, signed and presented to the County Board of Supervisors, who finally appointed a committee of three to decide the controversy. This committee met at Nora Springs, heard the arguments on both sides, and finally decided that the bridge should be located at Nora Springs. This was accordingly done, and a wooden structure was put up at a cost of \$2,500. This was located by the mill,

some distance above the present bridge. In 1870 this was taken down, and the present iron bridge put up, at a cost of \$5,000.

Another iron bridge on Flood Creek, near the residence of Dr. W. Shaw, was completed in 1876.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICERS.

The first records seem to have been lost, the first election that we find a record of being in 1873, when the township officers were as follows: Clerk, Samuel Means; Trustees, L. D. Sweet, C. M. Allen, Nicholas Fleenor.

The present officers are: Clerk, Leroy A. Snow; Chairman Board of Trustees, Charles Darling; Trustees, Charles Darling, Henry L. Benedict and Edson Gaylord; Assessor, M. H. Nickerson; Justices of the Peace, A. B. Tredway, H. L. Benedict and L. H. Peilm.

#### ROCK GROVE MILL.

This mill was erected by J. A. Lathrop in 1867 and 1863. It is situated on the Shell Rock River, and is run by water-power. It has a capacity of seventy-five barrels a day, and makes the best grades of flour by the newest processes. It has now five run of stones, but began with two. It is doing a good business, both at custom and merchant work. Mr. Lathrop is the present proprietor and manager.

#### NORA SPRINGS.

The first settlement made on the town site was by one Wiltfong, who came about 1853, and built a cabin on the site of the present mill. He sold his claim the following year to Sheldon Fox, of Lowell, Dodge County, Wis. He remained nine months, and then went to Cedar Falls, where he still resides. M. S. Snow came here from Jones County in the spring of 1855, with his wife and one daughter, now Mrs. Nancy E. Brundage. He moved into Fox's house. In 1856 came C. M. Allen, now dead, and John West, now of Mason City. They hailed from Illinois, and came to build a mill dam. They were accompanied by Sylvester Meacham and Amos Pardee. The mill itself had been built as early as 1854, by Messrs. Fox & Griffith. In 1857 came Frederick Drew, a blacksmith, who still resides in Nora Springs.

Nora Springs was surveyed and platted in 1857, by John West, C. M. Allen and Edson Gaylord. An addition was made by E. P. Greeley, from Nashua, before the plat was recorded. They first

named the place Woodstock, from Woodstock, Ill.; but one of the surveyors liked the name Nora, as this was the name of a lady-love of his, according to rumor; and "when the girl afterward went back on him, he went back on the town," and took up his abode in a neighboring county. Allen and West agreed to accept Nora Springs as the name of the future town. The springs from which the name was suggested lie principally north of the village, though there is one large one, used by the railroad, south of the village.

#### FIRST THINGS.

The first house in Nora Springs was one built by Wiltfong, in 1853.

The first frame house was built by John West, in the fall of 1856.

The first school-house was built on section 7, a short distance east of the village, in the fall of 1854-'5. An account of this is given in the first part of this chapter. The present school-house was built in 1870.

The first store in Nora Springs was kept by E. P. Greeley, in 1857. Goods had been sold, however, previously, by John West. After about a year Mr. Greeley moved away. The next store was that of Tyler Blake, opened in 1869.

In the new town, the first store was that of Orlando McCraney, and was situated opposite the present store of Leroy Snow. Mr. McCraney kept it about two years, and then sold to H. F. Davidson.

The first blacksmith, Frederick Drew, came in 1857.

The first wagon-maker, F. H. Snow, came in 1857.

The first shoemaker, Calvin Snow, came in 1857.

The first hotel was the Wallace House, kept by Pratt Wallace, and opened in 1869.

#### THE REVIVAL.

Nora Springs grew very slowly for many years, but in 1869 it awakened from its Rip Van Winkle sleep, and suddenly sprang into a new and vigorous life. The Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad came plowing its way through, and a marvelous revolution followed in its wake. New additions were made to the town, stretching southward toward the railroad, and the forest trees that for ages had withstood the winds and the storm fell before the ax and spade, and the sugar bush and hunting ground of

poor "Lo!" was transformed into a thrifty town of 700 inhabitants.

No sooner had the first wave of excitement passed on than another important railroad was built, reaching with one hand into the lumber regions of the North, and grasping with the other the coal and fruit fields of the sunny South, chaining together, with an iron band, the great cities of St. Louis and St. Paul. The future of Nora Springs was then determined, and the early settlers who had lived here for nearly twenty years without having seen the smoke of the engine, felt like an ancient king, who, overwhelmed with his great achievements, cried out, "O Lord, in the midst of all this prosperity, send us some misery."

#### INCORPORATION.

Nora Springs was incorporated in the summer of 1874, and the council held its first meeting Aug. 31, of that year. As an item of interest the proceedings of the first meeting are given:

"Council met and organized, with the Mayor in the chair. Present: Recorder Burgess, Trustees Snow, Blake, Hubbard, Stewart and Gardner, who were sworn into their respective offices.

"On motion of Trustee Hubbard, J. C. Burlingham was elected Marshal by the following vote: Ayes, Snow, Blake, Hubbard, Stewart, Gardner and Burgess—six.

"An ordinance relating to the duties of marshal was read and adopted by the following vote: Ayes, Snow, Blake, Hubbard, Stewart, Gardner and Burgess—six.

"On motion, George W. Stannard was unanimously elected Treasurer.

"By a unanimous vote, a motion of Trustee Snow was carried, that the rule requiring ordinances to be read three times before passage be suspended for this evening.

"Ordinances concerning misdemeanors, unlawful assemblies, etc., were then read and adopted.

"On motion of Trustee Hubbard, the marshal's bond was placed at \$300.

"An ordinance pertaining to licensing saloons, billiard tables, etc., was read and adopted.

"On motion, Council adjourned until Tuesday, Aug. 10, 1875, at 8 P. M.

"A. W. BURGESS, *Recorder.*"

At the next meeting, held Aug. 10, ordinances were adopted relating to shows, etc.; to cattle running at large; to hogs running



at large; and to horses, mules, etc. During the months of August and September a complete code of ordinances was adopted, and the Governmental machinery of Nora Springs was in running order.

At first there were five trustees, elected every year; but in 1878 the new law went into effect which provided for the election of two trustees each year, to hold office for three years, thus making six trustees in the council. The five trustees at that time drew lots for length of service, and A. W. Burgess and A. J. Brundage were chosen for one year; A. McG. Stewart and F. B. Harnish were chosen for two years, and M. S. Snow was chosen for three years.

At an election held in 1875 the officers were as follows: Mayor, Horace Gage; Recorder, A. W. Burgess; Trustees, M. S. Snow, Tyler Blake, F. M. Hubbard, A. McGregor Stewart and G. H. Gardner; Marshal, J. C. Burlingame; Attorney, P. W. Burr; Treasurer, G. W. Stannard. The present officers are: Mayor, Horace Gage; Recorder, L. A. Snow; Trustees, P. Warburton, M. S. Snow, W. S. Haight, A. W. Burgess, A. J. Brundage and A. A. Sullivan; Marshal, Edson Gaylord; Treasurer, D. A. Wheeler; Assessor, D. A. Wheeler; Attorney, J. F. Gates; Street Commissioner, Edson Gaylord.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT.

The Independent School District of Nora Springs was organized in 1878, with the following officers: President, Horace Gage; Secretary, H. B. Shaw; Board, Horace Gage, J. Kidney, Edson Gaylord, A. B. Tredway, John Hollenbeck and W. D. Manchester. The principals of the school since then have been G. W. Schafer, of Shell Rock, M. H. Crain and A. J. Stevens. The present officers are as follows: President, C. C. Birney; Secretary, O. B. Allen; Board, C. C. Birney, D. A. Wheeler, A. W. Burgess, Horace Gage and Edson Gaylord.

#### NORA SPRINGS CREAMERY.

The Nora Springs Creamery was started Oct. 1, 1880, by R. J. Jakeway. It was soon after taken charge of by the present manager, J. F. Cochonour. Horse-power is used. Only cream is used, two wagons being run to gather the cream. The establishment has made as much as 625 pounds of butter in one day. During July, 1882, it made 10,000 pounds.

## NORA SPRINGS FOUNDRY.

The Nora Springs Foundry and Machine Shop was built originally for a saw-mill, at about the same time that the present Iowa & Dakota Division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad was built through Nora Springs. Mr. J. A. Lathrop bought a half interest in 1881 of George Briggs. The latter died in June, 1882. Mr. Lathrop has rented Briggs's interest, and now operates it in his own name. He makes all sorts of castings for mill-repairs, machinery, horse-powers, anvils, farm boilers, jack-screws, well-drills, sleigh-knees, etc. He uses the latest improved machinery in his works.

## BANK.

The exchange bank of A. B. Tredway was established in 1877, by Farwell & Co., from Eau Claire, Wis. These gentlemen sold out in 1878, to Horace Gage, and he sold, in turn, to A. B. Tredway, in 1879. The bank is prosperous and growing, and has ample capital. The Cashier is J. M. Tredway.

## ELEVATOR.

This was built by A. B. Tredway in 1875, and was by him operated until 1877, when it burned down, owing to a defective smoke-stack. It was 30 x 50, and cost \$5,000. Mr. Tredway at once rebuilt it, at an expense of \$7,000. It is now 24 x 32, and has a capacity of 15,000 bushels. It has a steam-boiler and engine of fifteen horse-power. It is one of the finest elevators in the Northwest. Mr. Tredway deals in all kinds of grain, and grinds feed. During the year ending July 31, 1882, he has bought over 90,000 bushels of grain, and ground eighty-two cars of feed, at 28,000 pounds to the car. He has the very best machinery,—the Moline separators and the Morgan smutter—and can clean and separate a car-load an hour. Mr. Tredway has been in the grain business for ten years, using only his own capital, and is one of Floyd County's most enterprising business men.

## POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice was established in 1861, and M. S. Snow was the first Postmaster. He resigned after two years, and T. H. Judson was appointed in his place. He was followed by Charles Paddleford, who did not keep the office very long. W. P. Gaylord then held the office until 1877, when he resigned. T. E. Bryan is the present Postmaster.

## PROFESSIONAL.

The first lawyer was W. P. Gaylord. A Mr. Hunt came here in 1870, and died after about two years. A Mr. Webber was here in 1872, for a short time, in partnership with Mr. Gaylord. Ed. Wheeler came in 1878, and J. F. Gates came in 1877. P. W. Burr also practiced here some years, but he is now in Charles City.

The first physician, Dr. C. C. Birney, who is still here, and Dr. Clark, who is now at Marble Rock, came in 1869. Dr. S. R. Howitt, now at Charles City, practiced here from 1870 to 1882. Dr. S. G. Blythe came in 1871, and Dr. F. H. Blythe, in 1880.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

J. Q. Adams, physician and druggist; C. C. Birney, physician and druggist; Blythe & Blythe, physicians; B. H. Britton, Prop. Central House; Brundage Bros., blacksmiths; T. E. Bryan, Postmaster; Burgess & Stone, general merchants; Chambers & Winslow, saloon-keepers; Henry Clark, barber; James Clark, boot and shoe dealer; Mrs. Cleveland, millinery; Henry H. Colt, Prop. *Press*; John Fizell, wagon-maker; Gage & Ayers, general merchants; H. Gage, loan agent; J. F. Gates, attorney; Gaylord & Bryan, general merchants; Edson Gaylord, brick-maker; W. H. Gonser, grocer; C. F. Greenman, restaurant; John Haasis, general merchant; A. Hall, blacksmith; G. W. Hall, harness-maker; F. M. Hubbard, drugs and groceries, etc.; R. Jakeway, creamery; Keyes & Blythe, Props. *Monitor*; Knapp & Miles, agricultura implements; J. A. Lathrop, Prop. foundry and machine shops; William Mathers, harness-maker; G. Miller, butcher; W. W. Miner, marble-worker; Mitchell Bros., painters; W. J. Murray, boot and shoe dealer; L. H. Peilm, hardware dealer; Mrs. L. D. Powers, millinery and dry goods; Rich & Quinby, liverymen; J. L. Rowell, furniture dealer; H. B. Shaw, Prop. Spencer House; George Smith, wagon-maker; H. Snahr, boot and shoe dealer; Leroy A. Snow, grocer; W. S. Sweat, general merchant; A. B. Tredway, banker; A. B. Tredway, Prop. elevator; W. B. Trevitt, saloon-keeper; Wheeler & Hamilton, stock dealers; B. A. Wheeler, lumber dealer; D. O. Whitesell, well-driller; R. M. Wilson, painter; Albert Zemke, blacksmith.

## RELIGIOUS.

*Nora Springs M. E. Church.*—The first class was organized in the grove near the school-house in August, 1869, by J. W. Gould, and the charge was organized the same fall. The first denomination in this vicinity were held in a very early date by such pioneer preachers as Revs. Holbrook and Cooley. Among the first members were James Wyatt and wife, Jerry Parmalee and wife, Homer Parmalee and wife, S. L. Billings and wife, George Teel and wife, Philor Hooker and wife, M. H. Nickerson and wife and F. L. Benedict and wife.

The first regular pastor was Rev. J. W. Leslie, of Janesville, who remained here one year. He went from here to Shullsburg, Iowa, where he died. Mr. Leslie was succeeded in the Nora Springs pulpit by Rev. Horace Warner, who remained here two years. He and Rev. Mr. Judson, of the Baptist church, held a very successful series of revival meetings, and a number joined at that time. Mr. Warner went from here to Plainfield, where he still lives on a farm. Next came Rev. H. W. Bennett, of Decorah, in 1873 and remained three years.

During Mr. Bennett's ministry the friends of the cause raised the necessary funds and commenced the erection of a church. It was completed in 1876, at a cost of \$3,500. It is a frame structure, about 40 x 60, and will seat comfortably 300 persons.

Mr. Bennett was a very earnest worker, and was very popular with the congregation. He is a man of great ability, and is now one of the most prominent ministers in his denomination in Iowa. He went from here to Mason City, where he remained three years; thence to Cedar Rapids, staying one year; and thence to Dubuque, where he has been for three years.

Rev. G. L. Garrison was the next pastor, remaining two years. He came from Luana, Clayton County, and after his two years here he went to Shullsburg. He is now preaching at Shell Rock. He is admitted by all to be a cultured and energetic minister. He is a graduate of the Garrett Biblical Institute, at Evanston, Ill. He was followed by Rev. Thomas E. Fleming, of Mitchell. He remained one year. In 1878 came Rev. J. J. Littler, who also preached but one year. Rev. L. S. Cooley was invited to the pulpit in 1879. Mr. Cooley was one of the pioneer preachers of Northern Iowa, and has been well known to all Methodists. Mr. Cooley was an enthusiastic worker. He built the church at Plymouth,

and he cleared the church at Nora Springs of debt. He went from here to Maynard, Fayette County, where he still preaches.

The present pastor, Rev. J. R. Cameron, came here in the fall of 1881, from Maynard, exchanging pulpits with Mr. Cooley.

The first Trustees of the church, elected in 1870, were M. H. Nickerson, J. J. Gaylord, F. L. Benedict, Jerry Parmalee and James Wyatt. The parsonage was built about the same time, at a cost of \$600, besides the lots. This was sold in 1877, to assist in the payment of the church debt.

The society met in Union Hall, previous to the building of the church.

The present Trustees of the church are: James Wyatt, G. W. Adron, J. M. Sheets, F. L. Benedict, T. J. Smith, O. R. Shaw, and J. H. Morey.

The church has a membership of forty, and the Sunday-school, of which L. Richie is Superintendent, about the same number.

*The Rock Grove Baptist Church* was organized at Rock Grove City in the latter part of 1854. Among the more prominent of the first members were the following: John Hunt and wife, B. M. Lyon and wife, Deacon Nicholas Fleenor and wife, and Rev. Daniel B. Mead and wife. The first Deacons were John Hunt and Nicholas Fleenor. Rev. Mr. Mead was the first pastor of the congregation, and he remained with them till 1865, when he moved to Newton, Jasper County. There he preached for a year, and then, for the sake of his health, he purchased a little farm, which he worked until about 1877, when he returned to Nora Springs, his present home. Mr. Mead was well liked by all who heard him preach, and enjoys the honor of being one of the pioneer preachers of Northern Iowa. He was followed in the Nora Springs pulpit by Rev. Mr. Jones, Rev. Mr. Zimmerman, Rev. Mr. Freeman, Rev. Mr. Sherman, Rev. Mr. T. H. Judson, Rev. Mr. Abbott and Rev. Mr. Lamkin. The last-named preached in 1877-'8, and Rev. T. L. Hunter followed him for about one year. Rev. T. H. Judson was next invited to fill the pulpit, and he remained until the following spring, when Rev. L. W. Atkins came to Nora Springs. The present pastor, Rev. G. G. Daugherty, came in July, 1882. He is a graduate of the Alton Theological School.

The church building was erected in 1868, at Rock Grove City, and moved to Nora Springs in the summer of 1880. The present membership of the church is about fifty-five. The Sunday-school,

under the superintendency of A. S. Wright, has an average attendance of about eighty.

*The Church of Christ.*—About the first of April, 1871, Miles Knapp and wife received information that Rev. Melvin Nichols was preaching the doctrines of Alexander Campbell at Osage, Mitchell County. They went through eighteen miles of rain to hear him, and were so pleased that they urged him to deliver a discourse at Nora Springs. This he did May 2, and his sermon was the first of his faith preached at this place. Other meetings were held occasionally during 1871, and on the 12th of January, 1872, began a series of meetings which resulted in the organization of a society with about eighty members.

Rev. W. G. Sweeney was engaged to preach once each month, and he continued for some six months. Rev. J. W. Moore preached every two weeks, the meetings at this time being held in Union Hall. The next pastor was Rev. C. W. Sherwood, who preached continuously one year, beginning in 1875, and then on alternate Sundays for one year. For the next year the society had only occasional services, and then Rev. M. S. Johnson was invited to fill the pulpit, which he did for about six months of 1877. Since then the society has held no regular services. The membership is now forty-five.

The Sunday-school has met regularly since the formation of the society, and is now in a prosperous condition. Its membership is from fifty to sixty.

Their church was completed in 1873 at a cost of \$3,000.

The first Trustees of the church were Miles Knapp, Joseph Ankeny and James Hauxhurst. The present Trustees are Miles Knapp and John Griffith.

*The Congregational Society* of Nora Springs was organized in 1874. On the evening of Oct. 2 a number of the members met at Kidney's Hall to form the society. George W. Stonard, Deacon Fullerton and Dr. S. G. Blythe were appointed to prepare a constitution and by-laws. This work was duly performed and their report adopted at the next meeting. The first members of the society were: George W. Stonard and wife, S. C. Chadbourne and wife, H. L. Benedict, B. H. Britton and wife, H. B. Shaw and wife, Mrs. R. E. Robinson, Mrs. M. L. Graham, Mrs. W. M. Brooks, Mrs. Jackson Gaylord, Deacon Fullerton and wife, Dr. S. G. Blythe and wife, Clara Chadbourne, Phoebe Chadbourne, V. W. Albee and wife, Mrs. E. A. Spencer and W. G. Spencer. Of these S. C.

Chadbourne and wife, Mrs. M. L. Graham, Clara Chadbourne, Phoebe Chadbourne and V. W. Albee and wife have taken letters of dismissal and removed from Nora Springs. The present members of the church are George W. Stonard and wife, B. H. Britton and wife, H. B. Shaw and wife, Mrs. R. E. Robinson, Mrs. W. M. Brooks, Deacon Fullerton and wife, Mrs. Dr. S. G. Blythe and Mrs. E. A. Spencer. The officers elected at the time of the adoption of the constitution and by-laws were as follows: Clerk, R. E. Robinson; Treasurer, B. H. Britton; Trustees, George W. Stonard, S. C. Chadbourne and W. L. Benedict.

The Congregationalists have no church building, and have no regular services at the present time.

*The German Evangelical Association* was organized in March, 1872, at the house of Samuel Spotts, about three miles west of Nora Springs. The first members numbered twenty-six. The first pastors of the society were Revs. George Youngblood and F. Schulsky. They were followed by Rev. Mathew Knoll in 1874. He was here two years, and it was during his pastorate that the parsonage was built. He was followed in 1875 by Revs. F. Metfessel and O. Beck, the former of whom remained two years and the latter one year.

July 13, 1877, during Mr. Metfessel's pastorate, the society having previously bought the old Baptist church, the Trustees decided to rebuild it and fit it up for use. They had paid \$600 for the church, and now they expended enough on refitting, etc., to make the total cost about \$1,000. The church building is now about 40 x 20.

Mr. Metfessel was succeeded in the pulpit of this church by Rev. E. H. Bippert. He remained two years, and it was during his pastorate that most of the work on the church was done. He left in 1879, going to Hardin County. He is at present in Plymouth County. The next pastor was Rev. William Jonas, of Hardin County. He was here one year, when he went to Cresco. Rev. F. R. Frase was next invited to the pulpit in the spring of 1880, and accepting the call, he remained with the congregation two years. The present pastor, Rev. Otto Gerhardt, was called to the pulpit of this church in this month of February, 1882.

The association has at present a membership of about seventy. The present Trustees are: John Haasis, Peter Steil, O. F. Ladwig, John Kraus and Fred Briem. The Sunday-school has an attendance of about forty.

The parsonage was enlarged in the summer of 1882 by the addition of a wing. It is situated just east of the church.

*German Branch of the M. E. Church.*—This society was organized in 1870. The first members belonged previously to the Flood Creek Circuit, and were as follows: Conrad Krug, Anna L. Krug, Christian Berlin, Sophia Berlin, Edward Pribbenow, Maria Pribbenow, Herman Krueger, Christian Weitze and Johanne Weitze. All these were received into the membership of the new organization Sept. 26, 1870.

The first pastor of this congregation was Rev. Wilhelm Koerner, who began his duties Sept. 26, 1870. He came directly from Newburg, Mitchell County, but had previously lived in Ulster Township. This was Mr. Koerner's first charge, but by faithful devotion to the interests of his congregation he became well liked by all. He remained two years, and was then followed by Rev. Gottlieb Haefner, who came from Giard, Clayton County. Mr. Haefner was also two years in this pulpit, and preached his last sermon Oct. 4, 1874. Mr. Haefner was a faithful worker for the church, though this was his first pastorate. He was succeeded by Rev. Christian Gebhard, who came from Minnesota. Mr. Gebhard was at Nora Springs three years, and was then followed by Rev. August Krienke, from Spencer, Ia. He served this congregation two years, and then left for Fort Dodge. He is now at Clear Water. Rev. Philip Hummel was next invited to the pulpit, and he is the present pastor. He came here from Traer, Tama County, and is now nearly finishing his third year at Nora Springs.

The first Trustees of the church were: J. C. Ell, Philip Goetz, Christian Ladwig, Christian Berlin and John Kraus. Conrad Krug and Edward Pribbenow were chosen members of the board July 26, 1873. In 1875 the board consisted of Edward Pribbenow, Christian Berlin, Conrad Krug, Solomon Tuerk, Carl Meier and Henry Weitze. The present Trustees are: Edward Pribbenow, Christian Berlin, Conrad Krug, Charles Meier and Henry Weitze.

The present membership of the society is about fifty, and there are also ten probationers. The Sunday-school contains about thirty-five members. The congregation has no church edifice, and holds services in the English church. They meet in the afternoon, while the English congregation meets in the morning and evening. The two Sunday-schools meet one after the other.



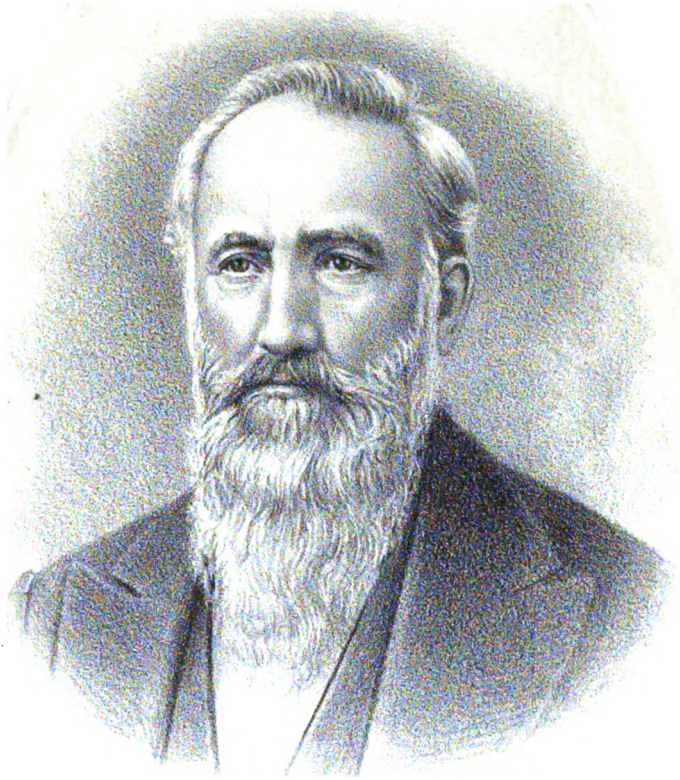
## SOCIETIES.

*Rock Lodge, No. 294, A. F. & A. M.*, was organized Oct. 18, 1870, by O. Humiston, of Plymouth. The lodge started with a membership of nine, as follows: Z. C. Trask, E. W. McNitt, J. A. Hewitt, J. Coykendall, Samuel Means, A. J. Brundage, D. C. Wickersham, J. A. Wilson and Conrad Goeler. The officers elected at this first meeting were as follows: Z. C. Trask, Master; E. W. McNitt, S. W.; J. A. Hewitt, J. W.; D. C. Wickersham, S. D.; J. A. Wilson, J. D.; C. M. Allen, Tyler; Samuel Means, Secretary. The office of Master Mason has been held successively by Z. C. Trask, E. W. McNitt, H. L. Benedict, F. M. Hubbard and A. J. Brundage. The present membership is fifty-eight, and the lodge is in sound condition, financially and otherwise. The present officers are as follows: A. J. Brundage, W. M.; C. W. Weeks, S. W.; W. W. Miner, J. W.; L. A. Snow, Secretary F. H. Gage, Treasurer; G. M. Hubbard, S. D.; Elmer Loree, J. D.; W. H. Baldwin, Tyler; A. A. Sullivan, S. S.; L. H. Peilm, J. S. The lodge meets the Wednesday evening on or before the full moon of each month.

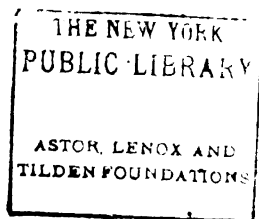
*Granite Rock Lodge, No. 200, I. O. O. F.*, was instituted Aug. 5, 1870, by Past Grand B. F. Cheeney, of Charles City, a member of National Lodge, No. 165, and then D. D. Grand Master of the district composed of Floyd and adjacent counties. The charter members were, H. A. Parmalee, F. M. Hubbard, T. E. Bryan, H. C. Brock, T. B. Hayes, S. R. Hewett, S. B. Elder and J. W. Shores, a part of whom were initiated for the purpose of chartering this new lodge by Pioneer Lodge, No. 194, then located at Rudd, but afterward it was removed to Rockford. S. G. Blythe, A. J. Brundage and I. S. Brundage, now members of this lodge, were then N. G., V. G., and Secretary of that lodge, and assisted in the initiation of these candidates. W. H. Gonser, L. D. Kidder and James Arnold were initiated on the night of institution. A. W. Burgess joined by card.

The first officers of the lodge were as follows: H. A. Parmalee, N. G.; T. E. Bryan, V. G.; W. W. Blood, R. S.; F. M. Hubbard, Treasurer; T. B. Hayes, P. S.

From the time of its institution until the present time, the lodge has passed through some dark days common to most all lodges in a new country, but the principal part of its life has been prosperous. Twice during this time there were serious thoughts in the



*J. J. Gaylord*



minds of the brothers of surrendering their charter. At one time there was a motion before the lodge for that purpose, but it was not carried. This motion awoke the members to renewed energy, and they put their shoulder to the wheel. It began to move in earnest, and has continued so to do ever since.

There have been three District Deputy Grand Masters appointed from this lodge: H. A. Parmalee, F. M. Hubbard and S. G. Blythe, the present District Deputy. Mr. Blythe is also the representative elect to the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

During the twelve years of its existence, its books show that 150 members have signed the roll; of these there are now, in good standing, seventy-two. Its sick and funeral benefits have always been paid without any assessments, and its financial affairs are in good condition. In connection with the Masonic lodge, it owns the real estate on which the lodge now stands. The lodge is now receiving rent instead of paying it out, as it has done in the past.

Of the eight charter members, there are now but three remaining: Messrs. Hubbard, Parmalee and Bryan, who are now active members and all Past Grands; the others have all removed from the place. The lodge holds its regular meetings, on Friday evening of each week.

The present officers are as follows: J. S. Brundage, N. G.; T. M. Blythe, V. G.; J. L. Wallace, R. S.; S. G. Blythe, Treasurer; Zina Roberts, P. S.; T. E. Bryan, R. S. to N. G.; J. A. Hardman, L. S. to N. G.; Charles Darling, W.; A. W. Burgess, C.; O. B. Allen, R. S. S.; Fred Ghering, L. S. S.; L. J. Keys, O. G.; F. M. Meade, I. G.; L. L. Benedict, R. S. to V. G.; F. M. Pardee, L. S. to V. G.

*Surety Lodge, No. 184, A. O. U. W.*, was organized March 19, 1879, at what was called Good Templars' Hall, by P. W. Burr and others from Charles City. The lodge started with a membership of twenty-eight, and elected officers as follows: D. A. Wheeler, P. M. W.; S. G. Blythe, M. W.; A. J. Brundage, Foreman; F. M. Mead, Overseer; R. M. Wilson, Guide; T. M. Blythe, Recorder; A. W. Burgess, Financier; William F. Stewart, Steward; George A. Heintzleman, I. W.; William J. Stewart, O. W.; Trustees, O. H. Johnson, A. J. Brundage, A. B. Tredway. The office of Master Workman has been held successively by S. G. Blythe, D. A. Wheeler, F. M. Mead, G. A. Heintzleman, A. W. Burgess and A. B. Tredway. The present membership of the lodge is thirty

six; and the present officers, elected June 26, 1882, are as follows: A. W. Burgess, P. M. W.; A. B. Tredway, M. W.; T. E. Bryan, Foreman; G. Miller, Overseer; T. M. Blythe, Recorder; W. H. Gonser, Financier; W. F. Stewart, Receiver; S. G. Blythe, Guide; J. M. Sheets, I. W.; D. A. Wheeler, O. W.; Trustee to Jan. 1, 1884, A. B. Tredway; Trustee to July 1, 1883, S. G. Blythe; Trustee to Jan. 1, 1883, J. M. Sheets. The lodge has had no deaths since organization. It meets the first and last Mondays of each month over the store of Burgess & Stone. The lodge is financially sound, and has good prospects for an increase in membership in the near future. Surety Lodge has the honor of containing among its members the Grand Medical Examiner for Iowa—S. G. Blythe.

*Rock Grove Collegium, V. A. S.*, was organized at the armory of Company K, Sixth Regiment I. N. G., at Nora Springs, on the evening of Aug. 9, 1882. Eleven members united in effecting this organization. The charter has not yet been received. The following officers were elected: Rector, S. G. Blythe; Vice-Rector, B. H. Britton; Chaplain, H. B. Shaw; Scribe, J. L. Wallace; Quaestor, A. B. Tredway; Usher, Harry H. Britton; Speculator, R. M. Gish; Curators, S. G. Blythe, Horace Gage and B. H. Britton. The meetings are to be held the first Saturday of each month. The purposes of the organization are similar to those of the A. O. U. W. and I. L. H.—mutual insurance.

*Nora Chapter, No. 55, O. E. S.*, held its first regular communication in Union Hall July 14, 1874. The various offices were filled that evening by members of the order from Rockford. The officers regularly elected and installed this evening were as follows: Helen Britton, W. M.; B. H. Britton, W. P.; Katie Birney, A. M.; Lydia A. Snow, Con.; Watie M. Kidney, A. C.; C. C. Birney, Sec.; H. Gage, Treas.; Carrie Britton, Adah; A. Burlingame, Ruth; Martha Hemphill, Esther; Mrs. Tyler Blake, Martha; Mrs. Brooks, Electa; W. Baldwin, Warder; J. C. Burlingame, Sentinel. It was decided to hold two communications per month, on the first and third Mondays. This rule is still the one in force.

The office of Worthy Matron has been held successively by Helen Britton, Carrie Britton, Lydia A. Snow, H. C. Birney, Abbie Gardner, Lydia Snow.

The office of Secretary has been filled successively by C. C. Birney, H. A. Britton, M. A. Birney, Matilda Snow. The present officers are as follows: Lydia Snow, W. M.; C. C. Birney, W. P.;

Nancy Gage, A. M.; Matilda Snow, Sec.; Sarah Cole, Treas.; Abbie Gardner, Con.; H. C. Birney, A. C. The present membership in good standing is eighteen. The chapter is under the jurisdiction of the Iowa Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, which was organized at Cedar Rapids, July 30, 1878, under a call from Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews, District Deputy for Iowa.

*Nora Lodge, No. 86, I. O. G. T.*, received its charter March 15, 1876, from Elias Jessup, G. W. C. T., and David Brant, G. W. S. The charter members were seventeen in number, as follows: Ladies, B. V. Gaylord, A. Valiet, A. Geary, Britton, C. Britton, Waterbury, Watson, Graham, Davison; Gentlemen, H. Britton, A. Sweet, O. P. Waterbury, G. Bushnell, A. C. McNitt, Fullerton, Knapp and Parmalee. The following were installed as officers for the first term: Z. C. Trask, W. O. T.; Mrs. G. Bushnell, W. V. T.; B. H. Britton, W. Sec.; A. McNitt, W. A. S.; G. A. Heintzleman, W. F. S.; F. B. Harnish, W. Treas.; W. F. Gage, W. M.; H. F. Davison, W. O. G. The lodge met regularly for five years and a half, and ceased to meet in the fall of 1881. The lodge had an average membership of about forty, and at one time had fully eighty. It was a very strong society in its day.

*Gardner Post, No. 79, Grand Army of the Republic*, was instituted July 13, 1882, by Chief Mustering Officer Gen. Horace G. Wolfe, of Jessup, Ia. At this meeting thirteen comrades signed the roll, which number has since been swelled to seventeen. There is a prospect of a still larger membership; but ultimately, of course, the organization will become weaker and weaker in numbers, unlike other organizations, for one by one the boys who wore the blue are answering to the roll call "beyond the river." The society is an honorable one, and the members are held together by peculiar ties. The post is named in honor of George H. Gardner, formerly of Nora Springs. The following officers were elected: S. G. Blythe, Commander; L. R. Funston, Senior Vice-Commander; L. D. Powers, Junior Vice-Commander; T. E. Bryan, O. D.; O. P. Waterbury, O. G.; C. R. Belauski, Adjutant; J. C. Chambers, Quartermaster; L. J. Keyes, Sentinel; C. F. Greenman, S. M. The regular meetings of the post are on the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month.

*Company K, Sixth Regiment, I. N. G.*—This company of militia was mustered in in July, 1878, with about forty members; it now contains nearly fifty, most of whom are in Rock Grove Township. The company meets regularly for drill at their armory in

Nora Springs, on the evenings of the first and third Thursdays of each month. The following are the officers: Leroy A. Snow, Captain; C. S. Tredway, First Lieutenant; Second Lieutenant, W. W. Miner. The company have uniforms, and uniforms supplied by the State. They have attended encampments as follows: Regimental, at Osage, October, 1878; Regimental, at Charles City, October, 1879; Brigade, at Des Moines, October, 1881; Brigade, at Waterloo, June 19-24, 1882.

*Nora Springs Cornet Band.*—A band was organized at Nora Springs in 1874, under the leadership of Israel Turner, then depot agent at Nora Junction. It contained about nine members, and continued in existence for three years. It had the reputation of being one of the finest cornet bands in the Northwest. It played at the Centennial Celebration at Charles City, July 4, 1876, and a number of other towns in Floyd County and vicinity. Since this band was broken up, two cornet bands have been organized, both of which had but a brief existence.

*Hook and Ladder Company.*—The Nora Springs Hook and Ladder Company was organized in 1875, and continued in existence about two years. There were about thirty members of the company. They were never needed for actual service but once, and that was when William Workman's barn was burned, in 1876. At this time the whole company turned out promptly, but they were unable to do much toward saving the barn. The town authorities purchased a wagon and several good ladders for the company, which drilled regularly once a month until it was disbanded, not receiving sufficient encouragement from the citizens. The last officers were V. W. Albee, Foreman; W. R. Poulton, 1st. Assistant; O. B. Allen, 2d Assistant; F. M. Mead, Secretary; L. A. Snow, Treasurer.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Allen Adams* was born in Mercer County, Penn., Nov. 26, 1843. He resided on a farm till he was fourteen years old, when he learned the trade of a shoemaker. He came to this country in 1861, and in the spring of 1862 enlisted in Company A, Eighteenth Iowa Infantry; was transferred to the Twenty-first Regiment in the fall of 1862; went in as a private, was promoted to Sergeant, and during the siege of Vicksburg, June 17, was mustered in as Second Lieutenant, which he held till the close of the war. When his time expired he was tendered the commission of Captain in order

to keep the company together till the balance of the regiment's time was out and they discharged, but declined. He was in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Vicksburg, Jackson, Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely, and others. He was on detached service during the charge at Black River Bridge. Took part in the charge on Vicksburg and saw Colonel Dunlap killed. He was married in 1868 to Mary S. Kilborn, who was born in 1842. Her father, E. B. Kilborn, was born in New York State in 1807, and died in February, 1881, in Otsego County, N. Y. Her mother, Mary (Fitch) Kilborn, was born in 1810 and died in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Adams have two children—Mertie L. and Gracie Belle. He owns ninety-three acres on section 17, Rock Grove Township, and is engaged in both farming and stock-raising.

*John R. Adams*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 9, Rock Grove Township, was born in Bedford County, Pa., March 19, 1824. He is a son of John Adams, of the same county. His Grandfather Adams was a native of Germany. John R. moved to Knox County, Ohio, with his parents in 1836, where his father died in 1876. He came to this county in 1865 and settled on wild prairie land; hauled lumber from Cedar Falls to build his house and took all his wheat there and sold it for forty cents a bushel. He owns 1,900 acres, all under cultivation. He is no office seeker. He was married in Gnadenhutten, Ohio, April 5, 1860, to Ellen Miksch, a native of New Philadelphia, Ohio. They have five children—Ilo, Rankin, Asa, Clara and Ida.

*Cyrus M. Allen* (deceased) was born in Scipio, Cayuga County, N. Y., May 4, 1822, and in 1833 he moved with his parents to Berrien, Mich., and subsequently to Chicago. He was married in the latter place, in 1850, to Lucy J. Judson, daughter of Henry Judson (deceased). She was born in Huntington, Crittenden County, Vt. Seven children blessed their union, viz.: Lucia, Oscar B., Alonzo, Carrie, Cyrus, Walter and Bertie. In 1856 Mr. Allen became a resident of Nora Springs, where, in company with John West, he owned and operated a saw-mill a number of years. He afterward worked at the blacksmith's trade. He died Feb. 11, 1874, and sorrow fell upon many hearts when to the list of the dead was added the name of this honest and upright man. He was a consistent member of the Congregational church, as was his wife, who afterward became the wife of Elder D. B. Mead, a Baptist minister.



*Oscar B. Allen*, an enterprising young business man of Nora Springs, is a native of Cook County, Ill., born July 1, 1855, a son of Cyrus M. Allen (deceased), whose sketch appears in this work. He came with his parents to Nora Springs in 1856, and was here reared and educated. He served an apprenticeship at the harness-maker's trade under G. W. Hall, and is still in his employ. He went to Dakota Territory in 1878, and was bookkeeper for the contractors who were building the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad and division, for some months. He returned to Nora Springs, and has since resided here. He is Secretary of the City School Board, and has been a member of the Old Settlers' Association for the past four years. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity.

*Jacob Ankeny*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 4, Rock Grove Township, was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., Aug. 25, 1822. His father, George Ankeny, of Westmoreland County, moved to Knox County, Ohio, in 1830. Jacob came to this county in 1855, where he owns 120 acres of fine land. He was Township Trustee at an early day, and at that time built the first bridge across Flood Creek. He was married in Knox County, O., to Susannah Adams. They have had thirteen children—Mary (deceased), Olive, Rebecca and Elizabeth, born in Ohio; Thomas J., Wallie F., Joseph L., Normandy, James P. and four deceased, born in this county. Two daughters, Elizabeth and Rebecca, are prominent teachers in this county. When Mr. Ankeny settled here, there were very few families in the township, and it was a wild prairie.

*George Apel*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 23, Rock Grove Township, was born in Hesse, Germany, March 22, 1846. His father, George Apel, was also a native of Germany. George, Jr., came to America, and to Osage, Iowa, in 1860. He enlisted in the late war in Company K, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and served three years, being in the battles of Little Rock, Nashville, Spanish Fort, Tupelo, and many others. He came to Floyd County in 1874, where he owns 160 acres of fine land. He was married in 1868 to Katie Lohn, and has three children—Conrad G., Anna C., and Willie F. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

*Abner A. Babcock*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 16, Rock Grove Township, born in Otsego County, N. Y., July 22, 1822, is a son of Sanford Babcock, also a native of New York State. His

early life was spent on a farm, and his education was received in the common schools of New York. In April, 1863, he came to this county and bought land, and the following fall moved his family here. He owns 170 acres and a half interest in 120 acres of fine land. He was married Sept. 19, 1852, to Nancy, daughter of Nicholas Quackenbos. They are the parents of six children, five living—Amos M., Isaac T., Ira J., George L., and Estella. He has served his county as Supervisor and his township as Clerk and Assessor.

*Isaac T. Babcock*, son of the above, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., April 26, 1858. He came to this county with his parents in 1863, and has received his education in the schools of this place, residing on the farm with his parents. He was married Feb. 7, 1882, to Ella Baker, a daughter of George A. Baker, who came to this county in 1870. Isaac T. resides on section 14, where he owns 120 acres of land and is engaged in farming and stock-raising.

*George A. Baker*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 15, was born in Knox County, Ohio, May 18, 1833, a son of William Baker, a native of Pennsylvania, who was brought to Knox County, Ohio, in 1812, when one year old. Geo. A. grew up on the same farm as his father; was educated in a subscription school, the first one he attended being held in the loft or attic of an old log milk-house. He came to this county in 1870 and now owns 192 acres of finely cultivated land. He was married in the fall of 1854 to Mary Robison. They have eight children—William W., John B., Ella, Clifford M., Jacob H., Sarah, Louis and Walter.

*Francois L. Benedict* was born in Chenango County, N. Y., Oct. 11, 1825; a son of Lewis Benedict, a native of Connecticut, and Lydia (Packard) Benedict, a native of New York. Both are living; the father eighty-three and the mother eighty-one years of age. Francis L. was educated in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, where he went with his parents when a small boy. In 1852 he came to Linn County, Ia., and in 1856 to this county, where he owns 200 acres on section 18, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married March 21, 1848, to Abigail Snow, a native of Massachusetts. They have seven children, five living—James L., Lyman L., Elmer A., Harrison and Bertie. He has been Township Trustee and School Director several years; County Supervisor one year, and was Postmaster two years.

*Henry L. Benedict* was born in Coventry, Chenango County, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1834. His father, Lewis Benedict, a native of Connecticut, moved to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, in 1836, and in 1846 to Dodge County, Wis. Henry L. was educated in Ohio and Wisconsin. He came to this county in the fall of 1867 and settled on section 11, where he owns 160 acres of fine land and eighteen acres of timber. He is both farming and stock-raising. He was married in 1855 to Sarah A., daughter of Martin L. Blair. They have had four children, three living—Sumner A., Charles F., and Lettie S. Marsha E. died at the age of eight years. He is Township Trustee and Justice of the Peace; is a member of the A. F. & A. M.

*Smith G. Blythe, M. D.*, Nora Springs, was born in Middlesex County, N. J., Nov. 6, 1841, and was one of a family of nine children. His father, Joseph M. Blythe, was a native of Kentucky, and a minister in the Presbyterian faith. In 1856 he was placed in charge of a pastorate at Vincennes, Ind., where Smith remained one year; then returned to the East, and entered Lafayette College at Easton, Pa., from which he graduated in the spring of 1860. He took charge of a classical academy at Belvidere, N. J., in the following fall, and began reading medicine. He was one of the first to enlist in the late Rebellion, becoming a member of Company D, First Regiment New Jersey Volunteers, and in a month after enlistment was made Commissary Sergeant. In February, 1862, he was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant of Company A, and at the battle of South Mountain was made First Lieutenant of Company F, and in November of 1862, was promoted to the Captaincy. He was wounded four times, and so severely at the battle of the Wilderness that he was mustered out for physical disability on June 24, 1864. Upon leaving the service he taught school at Hopewell, Ind., some time, and in the meanwhile continued the study of medicine. He attended the Ohio State Medical College at Cincinnati, during the sessions of 1866-'67, and located in the practice of his profession, in the spring of 1867, at Vinton, Ia. He successfully practiced there until December, 1869, when he moved to Rudd, Floyd County; thence, in January, 1873, to Nora Springs. He graduated from Bellevue Hospital Medical College of New York City, in 1878, and since his residence here has built up a large and lucrative practice, being recognized as one of the leaders of the medical profession in the State. Dr. Blythe was married July 8, 1863, to Miss Emily G. Sharp, daughter of Judge

Wm. R. Sharp, of New Jersey. Of nine children born of this union three survive—Emily M., Hannah L., and Redford V. The deceased were—Ellen H., William S., Jessie C., Elizabeth G., Jean M., and one who died in infancy. Dr. Blythe was the Presidential Elector for the Fourth Congressional District in 1880, and has efficiently served in various local offices. He is on the Governor's staff as Surgeon General, with the rank of Brigadier General of the Iowa National Guards. His mother, Ellen Henrietta (Green) Blythe, was a sister of the Hon. Chief Justice Green, of New Jersey.

*Alvaro W. Burgess* is a native of Mukwanago, Waukesha County, Wis., born Sept. 20, 1846, a son of Alvaro Burgess, Sr., who died in Beaver Dam, Wis., in 1864, whither he had moved with his family in 1848. The subject of this memoir was the youngest of a family of ten children, and he came to Nora Springs from Beaver Dam in 1869 and engaged in the manufacture of pumps. In February, 1871, he married Miss Marion E. Gaylord, oldest daughter of W. P. Gaylord. On the 29th day of September, 1872, after an illness of two days, she died. In April, 1874, he married Miss Lentie Paddleford, second daughter of Charles Paddleford. They have two children—Dale and Ruth. Mr. Burgess is now engaged in the mercantile business at Nora Springs with Mr. A. Stone. They carry a \$7,000 stock of goods, and their annual sales amount to \$30,000. They are popular merchants, and are recognized as men of irreproachable business integrity. In politics Mr. Burgess's sympathies are with the Republican party. In religion, a Baptist.

*Thomas Edwin Bryan*, one of the prominent citizens of Nora Springs, is a native of Nobles County, O., born Dec. 3, 1848. His father, Cornelius Bryan, was born in Monroe County, O., in 1810. The subject of this memoir came to Nora Springs, Ia., in November, 1869, from Delaware County, Ia. He enlisted during the war of the great Rebellion in Company K, Twenty-first Regiment Iowa Volunteers Infantry, and remained in the service three years. He married Miss Carrie Nichols, who died after a long and painful illness on Feb. 13, 1875. He was married Jan. 23, 1878, to Harriet A., daughter of Hon. W. P. Gaylord. They have one child, a daughter—Beulah. In company with J. J. Gaylord, Mr. Bryan is conducting a store of general merchandise at Nora Springs under the firm name of Gaylord & Bryan. He is an accomplished business man, an active salesman and a good accountant. In politics he is a Republican, and was appointed Postmaster of Nora Springs in January, 1879, and still retains the office. He is a prominent

member of the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W. fraternities, Nora Springs.

*Henry H. Cott* is a native of New York State, born in 1839. He, with his parents, moved to Wisconsin in 1852 and came to Nora Springs in 1872, starting the first paper ever printed in the town. With a disposition that cannot endure inaction, he gathered a slight knowledge of printing while spending the winter of 1863-'4 in Flint, Mich.; at that time he was working by day in a furniture manufactory, and becoming acquainted with the "boys" of the *Wolverine Citizen*; he passed the evenings in their company at the printing office, without the slightest idea that printing was ever destined to become his regular business. In the spring of 1864 he returned to Wisconsin, engaging in the grocery business, and printing a three-column amateur paper started by other parties. From this small beginning and from love of the work grew out a job office, and a newspaper became a natural consequence. Mr. Cott is by right the senior editor of Floyd County, having been continuously in business for a longer period than others of the profession.

*Charles Darling*, son of Calvin Darling, of Vermont, was born in Tioga County, N. Y., May 19, 1840. In 1855 he went to Portage County, Wis., with his parents, where he worked on a farm in connection with his trade, that of carpenter, which he learned when a boy, till the fall of 1868, when he came to Floyd County. He is living on section 21, Rock Grove Township, and is both farming and working at the carpenter's trade. He was married Sept. 21, 1862, to Maria Post, a native of New York State. They are the parents of four children, three living—Adda E., Francis L., and Annie L. Milton L. died at the age of five years. Mr. Darling is a member of the Baptist church. He has been Township Trustee several years, and School Director. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and G. A. R. During the war he served in Company F, Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, one year.

*Ira R. Dean*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Foxcroft, Piscataquis County, Me., Nov. 8, 1831, and is a son of Ira Dean, a native of Massachusetts. He was reared on a farm and received a common-school education. He went with his parents to DeKalb County, Ill., in 1844, and in 1854 came to this township. He resides on section 14, where he owns eighty acres. He was married Sept. 27, 1857, to Mary A., a daughter of Adam Oline. They are the parents

of six children, five living—Henry G., Dorcas M., Sarah A., Charlotte M. and Luna E. He has served as Constable two terms.

*William Dean*, farmer and stock-raiser, Rock Grove Township, is a son of Ira Dean, a native of Massachusetts, and was born in Foxcroft, Piscataquis County, Me., July 26, 1827, where he received a common-school education. He came West, to DeKalb County, Ill., in 1844, and to this county in 1853. There were only two houses where Charles City now stands, at that time, one being a store and a dwelling. He went about sixty miles, to Waverly and Cedar Falls, to mill, built his first house of logs, making the flooring of basswood and the shingles of oak with an ax only; fastened the roof on with weight poles. Took his wheat to McGregor, a distance of 100 miles, and sold it for 25 and 30 cents per bushel. He was married July 4, 1856, to Harriet A., daughter of Samuel Gaylord. They had one child—William J., born May 7, 1858; died May 25, 1858. Mrs. Dean died May 8, 1858. Feb. 12, 1860, he married Adeline Arthur, who died Sept. 8, 1874. July 4, 1875, he married Harriett N. Birdsall. He resides on section 11, and owns 370 acres of fine land. He has held the offices of Township Clerk, Township Trustee, and has been Justice of the Peace several years. Mr. Dean always held that the path of duty was the only path of safety; would sooner see the "heavens fall" than swerve from what he thought to be right. He was ever particular to fulfill to the letter every promise, even to the least. When his promise was out for anything it was *always sure*. Though hard up for money his punctuality enabled him to get any money that was not in immediate use wherever he could find a dollar.

*Nicholas Fleenor*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 17, Rock Grove Township, was born in Washington County, Va., June 17, 1811. He is a son of Isaac Fleenor, of the same State, Nicholas being born and reared on the same farm as his father; attended a subscription school in a log cabin; had slab benches with no backs, puncheon floor, and heated by a fire on a large stone at one end of the cabin, the smoke going out of a hole in the roof. There was a slab on pins stuck in the wall for a writing desk, and greased paper pasted over a crack in the wall for a window. He went to Washington County, Ind., in 1834, and cleared out a farm. He came to this township in 1855, moved on a farm here in 1856. He owns 150 acres, and has deeded eighty acres to his sons. He was married in December, 1835, to Sarah Kaylor. They had eleven children, seven living—Robert, John, James, Mary J.,

Martha E., Nancy C., and Luella. Two sons, Isaac M. and Geo. F., died in the late war. Isaac M. was in the Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, and Geo. F. was in the Dubuque Battery. One daughter, Mary, died after she was married, and left one son.

*Enoch F. Forbes*, section 20, Rock Grove Township, was born in Black Hawk County, Ia., June 2, 1853. He came to Floyd County with his parents in April, 1865. He was married Nov. 25, 1873, to Lora E. Henry, born in this township May 24, 1856, and a daughter of John and Julia A. (Workman) Henry. They are the parents of four children, three living—Milton, Wilson and Mary Mand. Mr. Forbes is a member of the I. O. O. F.

*John G. Forbes*, a native of New York, came to Iowa in 1850, and settled in Henry County. From Henry County he went to Louisa, from Louisa to Black Hawk, from Black Hawk to Tama, and from Tama to Rock Grove. in 1865, and purchased of B. M. Lyon the premises near Rock Grove City, where his widow now resides. He married Miss Elizabeth Mathews. In February, 1872, he died, and was buried at Rock Grove City. He was an industrious, honest farmer, and was respected by all. On the premises he had planted a fine young orchard, which is now producing its fruits. He held the office of Trustee and School Director, and whatever he did for himself or the public was well done. His children were—Harriet, now dead; Margaret J., wife of William O. Moore, of Indiana, and now dead; Thomas J., now in Kossuth County, Ia.; Joseph W., now in Minnesota; James W., now here; Mary E., wife of P. J. Smith, of Black Hawk County; Wilson M., now studying for the legal profession, at State University at Iowa City; E. Fletcher, now here, and Isabella, wife of George Brown, Esq., of this place. In politics a Republican. In religion a Methodist.

*H. Gage*, Mayor of Nora Springs, was born in Worcester County, Mass., Feb. 20, 1822, a son of Nathan Gage, likewise a native of the Bay State. His grandfather, Silas Gage, emigrated from Scotland to America when a mere boy, and his descendants are now among the prominent respected citizens of various States. The subject of this memoir was reared on a farm, and his educational advantages were those of the common schools. At the age of fourteen he became self-supporting, purchasing a stock of tinware, which he peddled three years, then ran a wholesale cigar and confectionery wagon three years. He spent two years as collector for T. New & Co., stove dealers, in Keene, N. H., and in 1852 he married Nancy

E. Stone, of that place. Four children have blessed their union, Henry S., Warren H., Frank H. and Mary E. After his marriage, in 1854 Mr. Gage moved to Madison, Wis., thence to Stevens' Point in 1856. One year later he located in Howard County, Ia., where he engaged in farming and the mercantile and stock business until the fall of 1867, when he became a resident of Nora Springs. He has been instrumental in building up the town, and has been always foremost in any enterprise that promised progression to her interests. He always takes an active interest in educational matters and has been a member of the School Board for six years. He has served acceptably as Mayor for the past five years; he helped to organize the Masonic lodge of this place, and is also a member of the I. O. O. F. fraternity. During the first years of his residence here Mr. Gage engaged in the mercantile, grain and banking business, but of late has attended to the management of his farms, five in number, and loaning his money. Though coming to this country in limited circumstances he has by an indomitable will and determination to succeed surmounted all obstacles, and to-day he ranks with the wealthy and influential citizens of Floyd County.

*Jonathan F. Gates*, attorney, Nora Springs, was born near Marietta, Ohio, Nov. 13, 1838. He went with his parents to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1843, and in 1847 to Fond du Lac County, Wis. In 1861 he went to Independence, Ia., and from there direct to what is now Springfield, D. T., and helped lay out the town; returned to Independence in 1861. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and was discharged Feb. 16, 1863, on account of disability. His education was limited till after the war, when he went to Lenox Collegiate Institute, Hopkinton, Ia., during 1866 and 1867. He then read law and was admitted to the bar in March, 1875. He practiced in Independence a short time; served five years as Deputy Sheriff of Buchanan County, Ia., before he was admitted to the bar. He came to Nora Springs in the fall of 1875, where he is engaged in the practice of law, collecting, notary public, real estate and general agent. He was married April 10, 1869, to Mary J. Burrington. They have one adopted child—Edna, born April 14, 1873. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

*Edson Gaylord*, born in Northville, Litchfield County, Conn., Oct. 16, 1826, is a son of Samuel and Betsy (Jackson) Gaylord. His paternal grandfather, Ager Gaylord, was in the French and Indian wars, and distinguished himself by killing two Frenchmen



at one shot, while on picket duty. The Gaylords are noted as a long-lived race, several of his ancestors reaching 100, and one the advanced age of 112 years. His mother was specially noted for her fine vocal powers. Edson Gaylord has always been a hard-working man commencing at the early age of six years, when his father hired him out to ride a horse for Elmer Baldwin, of New Milford, Conn., to plow a steep side-hill full of stumps and stones. He was put on the horse, which was hitched ahead of two yoke of unbroken steers. The horse pulled one way and the steers the other. The order was given to "lick up," and he "licked up," when off they started, boy, horse, steers, and, lastly, Yankee Baldwin, holding on to the plow with a death-like grip. He started as soon as the sun was up in the morning, and rode all day, returning just as it was dark, and received six and one-fourth cents a day. At the age of nine he was hired out to work on a farm at \$6 per month. At the age of seventeen he went to Sussex County, N. J., to teach school. He left home with \$7 in money and one plain suit of clothes. After traveling three days he reached his destination with fifty cents left. He taught the school three successive terms and returned to Connecticut with \$70, paid up his father's small debts and commenced going to school. Three weeks later he was sent for from a back country school, where the large scholars had just dismissed the teacher with fearful warnings if he ever dared show himself in the community again as a teacher. After many warnings from friends and much persuasion from the committee he concluded to accept the position which he filled with perfect satisfaction to all concerned for three winters. In the spring of 1848 he engaged to work for Captain John Peters, of Woodville, for \$160 a year, pledging himself to work faithfully, with no holiday. This pledge he kept to the letter, losing no time in the following five years he did not make up by working nights. He taught three terms in a district school in New Jersey. Up to the time he was twenty-one he gave all his wages to his father, reserving only sufficient to clothe himself in the plainest manner. In the spring of 1853 the five brothers were in council together and agreed that one of their number should "go West," and look up, and secure homes for themselves and families. This lot fell to Edson. He went first to Bristol, Wis., where he had cousins; looked over the Southern part of Wisconsin and the Northern part of Illinois, down as far as Quincy; then came into Iowa, and from here went to Minnesota; then back to Bristol, where he worked through harvest; then started once more, and, finally, after coming to Rock Gröve for the third

time, was fully convinced that it was the most lovely spot, and possessed more natural advantages than any other he had seen in all his rambles. Oct. 21, 1853, he cut the first tree, to clear up the site for his future home on the northwest quarter of section 17. He completely finished a house 18 x 24, warm and comfortable, without using a nail. The roof was of split stakes, held in place by heavy poles. Mr. Gaylord has some peculiarities that it would be well if more possessed. He has held as his motto: "Pay as you go," owing no one, and never gave his note till after he was forty-five, and then on conditions. Never gave written security to any one. In religion he is eclectic; in politics is independent; always subscribes liberally to all church and public enterprises, especially such as pertain to the cause of education. He cut the first tree for a school-house in Floyd County, getting up in the middle of the night to do it. Mr. Gaylord is a man of more than ordinary ability, as his work has shown. He cut out and made the first pioneer road through Rock Grove; burned the first lime in a regular kiln. He made and supplied almost the entire country with lime and brick for many years, having for this business over forty-five acres of very heavy timber, averaging to handle the wood three times with his hands. He deeded most of the land where Nora Springs now stands from the Government. He built one of the most substantial houses in Northern Iowa, using for the purpose 100,000 brick and 500 bushels of lime; has dealt with many, but lawed with none, always exemplifying his fixed convictions, that every person should secure their own needs by *honest toil*. He was for some years a correspondent of the New York *Tribune*. Has written many valuable papers on the apple-tree question in the Northwest, which have been republished and highly complimented by leading horticulturists of the Northwest. He never aspired to any public office which he did not secure by heavy majorities. He has been Justice of the Peace, Chairman of the Board of Township Trustees, and Chairman of the City School Board several years each. Is now a member of the two latter, and also Marshal and Street Commissioner. He was married July 22, 1862, to Helen M. Lamb, of Wayne, Du-page County, Ill., of Scotch parentage. Their first born was a son—Wallace E., born July 22, 1863; the second, a daughter, Myrta J., born July 22, 1865, died Mar. 1, 1869; the third, a daughter, Vienna, born Jan. 27, 1871.

*Jackson Gaylord* was born in the village of Northville, township of New Milford, Litchfield County, Conn., on Dec. 23, 1829. He was named after his mother, whose maiden name was Betsy Jack-

son. He is a descendant of brave and patriotic ancestors, many of them having fought bravely in the defense of their country's honor, in the wars which occurred in their lifetimes. His great-grandfather died in the French and Indian wars, and his grandfather, Agur Gaylord, entered the army at the age of 16, serving through the French and Indian and the Revolutionary wars. On one occasion while out on a scouting expedition, he saw two Frenchmen, who had taken refuge behind two trees which had commenced growing together and widened out as they grew. Mr. Gaylord and his party took refuge behind a stump, standing in Indian file, to watch the proceedings of the enemy. The Frenchmen stepped together to prime their guns, one of them apparently being out of powder. Mr. Gaylord embraced the opportunity to make sure of his men, which he did by killing both at one shot. Agur Gaylord died at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. Samuel Gaylord, father of the subject of this interesting record, was born Jan. 6, 1776, in the town of Norfolk, Conn., and at the age of fourteen was apprenticed to the blacksmith's, serving seven years. He was an excellent workman, especially excelling in the manufacture of edged tools. He emigrated to Rock Grove Township in 1855, and resided here until his death. He secured the south half of southeast quarter of section 1, township 96, range 19, Portland Township, Cerro-Gordo County; also twenty-nine acres of timber on section 18, lying between the railroad addition to Nora Springs and the Shell Rock River, on a part of which the M. & St. P. R. R. Co. built their depot. He also owned blocks 13 and 14, old town, living on said premises several years. He has since built a house on lots 1 and 2, block 10, railroad addition, where he resides at this time. He was married on the 8th of November, 1862, to the widow Harriet Vliet, of Tranquility, Sussex County, N. J. She had three children—Eliza and Ira, who live in Jersey, and Alice, who married Robert Wilson, and now lives in Nora Springs. His wife, Harriet, died of consumption, on Dec. 2, 1877. He was again married Aug. 7, 1879, to the widow Elizabeth Coppock, a native of Stockport, England, and sister to Israel Turner, depot agent at Nora Junction. She had one son—W. M., who lives with his mother. Jackson has no children. By profession he is a school-teacher, and has a good education. He attended the common schools until twelve years of age, and from that time until his eighteenth year went to school during the winters and worked in the summers. He spent four terms in an academy or high school. Being naturally endowed with superior mental abilities he has

been a diligent student, and is one of the best informed men of his day. As a teacher he has been very successful. While in the West farming was his principal business. In politics a Republican. He is not a member of any church, but in sentiment a Congregationalist. His wife, Harriet, was a member of the Congregational church. The following narrative as related by him shows to some extent the endurance and perseverance of the early settlers: "In 1855 I was living in Tranquility, Sussex County, N. J.; having determined on going West, I went to New York City, where I met my father, mother, and two sisters, also brother Lyman and family and brother Edson, who had returned from the West for the purpose of taking my father and family back with him. We went to Chicago, then up the lake to Kenosha, Wis., thence to Bristol, where we stopped several weeks with brother Wilberforce and other friends, making preparations for a three-hundred-mile overland journey to Iowa, also waiting for our goods which we had sent by the way of the lakes, but we were obliged to go without them, learning afterward they arrived the day we left. We purchased four yoke of oxen and three wagons; on the 12th of November we commenced our journey. For three days the weather was very pleasant, when suddenly it changed, rained, turned cold, snowed, and winter set in in earnest. Our faithful oxen trudged on, day after day, slow but sure. At night stopping with some farmer, spreading our beds upon the floor, bunked in for a snooze and a rest, Edson and sometimes myself sleeping out-doors in the wagon. So we traveled on day after day through the snows, and beaten by the cold winds of the Wisconsin hills. Upon reaching the Mississippi River we found navigation stopped on account of the slush ice in the river. Thinking we might have to remain where we were during winter, we commenced making preparations for that purpose. We stopped with a Kentuckian by the name of Hartford, a whole-souled, generous-hearted man, who, with his wife, did all they could to make us comfortable. In about four days the weather moderated so that the ferry-boat could run. We hurried our things aboard our wagons, and bidding good-bye to our kind hosts, we started once more for Iowa. On nearing the river we had to cross some bridges over bayous; our oxen not liking the looks of things very well, behaved so badly we were obliged to unyoke part of them and draw the wagons over by hand. On reaching the ferry we had quite a time in persuading our cattle to get on board; this being accomplished, we crossed the river

and landed at Clayton City, Ia., just at dark. Then we had to climb the heights and get over the bluffs. Our oxen not being shod and the road slippery, we had to double teams, sand the road, and take one load at a time. All having safely reached the summit, we were soon bunked for the night and in the arms of Morpheus. On the 5th of December, after a cold and tedious journey, we arrived at Rock Grove, on section 17, where Edson Gaylord lives at the time of this writing. The log house is now standing, having two rooms, in which seventeen of us, big and little, lived most of the winter. Provisions were very scarce; no meat or anything hardly in the country, except flour; for some time we lived principally on bread, and gravy made of flour, water, and molasses. We had to go long distances to trade. Myself and Earl Gaylord, my nephew, ten or twelve years of age, went to Dubuque to trade, with a big wagon and two yoke of cattle, a distance of 140 miles; stopping at Janesville, we found salt \$9 a barrel; in Dubuque it was about \$1.60. We were gone twelve days, camping out and sleeping in our wagon. Meetings were held in log school-houses and the groves. The people gathered for miles around, coming with ox teams. All were on a common level, and general harmony and peace prevailed.

*John G. Gaylord*, known in army records as J. J. Gaylord, was born in Litchfield County, Conn., July 28, 1843. He is a son of Lyman Gaylord, and came with his parents to this country in 1855. He was reared on a farm, and educated in the common schools of this county. He enlisted in the late war, in Company A, Twenty-first Iowa Infantry, and served over three years. He was in the battles of Magnolia Hill, Champion Hill, at the capture of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863; was one of the number that made desperate charges at Black River Bridge and Vicksburg, May 22, when Grant attempted to take the latter by storm; fought from May 1 to July 4, losing one tenth of their number May 17, at the Black River Bridge charge, and taking 1,100 prisoners and eighteen cannon; also, at Mobile, Fort Blakely, Spanish Fort and others; was never wounded or taken prisoner, and was always in the front. He was married May 21, 1861, to Alice J. La Due. Mrs. Gaylord died and, Sept. 16, 1863, he married Sarah Ankeny. Of his four children only three are living — Alice, Flora, and George A. He resides on section 10, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns 200 acres of fine land.

*John J. Gaylord*, brother of the Hon. W. P. Gaylord, was born in the State of New York, Dec. 12, 1818. His parents

moved to Litchfield County, Conn., when he was an infant, and he was reared and educated in New Milford that State. When he was seventeen years old his parents removed to Warren Township, and he worked in his father's blacksmith shop there and on farms in that vicinity until 1844, when he returned to New Milford and followed his trade there six years, thence to Southford, Conn. He worked in an edge-tool manufactory there one year; in a machine shop one year, and in 1852 went to Woodbury, Conn. In 1854 he came to Floyd County, Ia., and returned to Connecticut the same year. He worked in a paper-mill at Wolcott two years, and in 1861 came to Nora Springs, Ia. He farmed in this township thirteen years, and is now engaged in the mercantile business—a member of the firm of Gaylord & Bryan. He is a popular merchant, and is known throughout the county as a man of irreproachable business integrity. He was married in 1839 to Charlotte A. Johnson, who died Nov. 6, 1874, leaving two children—Ellen L., now Mrs. J. K. Rupert, of Charles City, and Marion, wife of Chas. E. Brown of Norwalk, Conn. Mr. Gaylord has filled many offices of trust, with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his constituents. He is a Methodist in his religious faith.

*Lyman Gaylord* came here from Litchfield County, Conn., in the fall of 1855, and settled on section 8, where he now resides. He is the eldest of five brothers living in this neighborhood. He has a good farm, a fine brick dwelling, and substantial outbuildings. He is a man of remarkable energy, and at his advanced age to-day does more hard work than most of the young men who call themselves smart. He is one of the few who can't endure rest, and one of the kind who will wear out instead of rusting away. He is out of debt, and has laid up enough for the "rainy day." He has a fine young orchard and an abundance of good timber. His sons are—John G. and Earl L. His daughters—Eliza, now Mrs. Wm. B. Reed, and Emily, now Mrs. Nick F. Weber, attorney at law at Clarion, Wright County, Iowa. His daughter Sarah, a child about seven years old, died in 1861. In politics he is a Republican. In religion, a Second Adventist.

*Wm. H. Gonser* was born in Knox County, Ohio, March 16, 1847. His father, Henry Gonser, died when he was quite small, and his mother married William Workman. In 1856 the family came to Floyd County. Wm. H. engaged in farming in Nora Springs till 1870, when he was engaged as a clerk in the stores

here, which continued till the spring of 1882, when he went into business for himself in a grocery, crockery, etc., store, and is having a good trade. He was married in 1876 to Sarah, daughter of Wm. F. Stewart, of Nora Springs. Mr. Gonser is a member of the Masonic, I. O. O. F., and A. O. U. W. societies.

*David Hardman* (deceased) was born in Montgomery County, O., May 24, 1817. His parents moved to Wayne County, Ind., in 1818, and to St. Joseph County, Ind., in 1832. He was married March 29, 1840, to Melinda Roe, of Wayne County, Ind. He went to Delaware County, Ia., in the fall of 1851, and came to this county in April, 1853, where he entered 160 acres of land on sections 20 and 21, Rock Grove Township, and was engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was the father of twelve children, ten living—Israel A., Noah W., Francis J., Vina A., Henry F., David A., John W., Jennie M., Ida F., and George R. Mr. Hardman died April 17, 1882. His son, George R., is carrying on the farm.

*Geo. A. Heintzelman* was born in Centre County, Pa., Jan. 23, 1836. His father, George Heintzelman, was a native of Union County, Pa.; his great-grandfather came from Holland about the same time as William Penn. He was reared on a farm, and his early education was comparatively limited. He removed to Will County, Ill., in 1854, and in 1860 went to St. Genevieve County, Mo. June 16, 1861, while cutting wheat in the field, he was drafted into the rebel army. He made the officers believe it was all right, but asked permission to finish his wheat, which was granted. That night he signalled a boat and escaped, going to St. Louis; he then bought a ticket for Red Wing, Minn., but was robbed on the wharf; then stopped at Fulton, Ill., and worked in the harvest-field one month, and enlisted in Company K, Eighth Illinois Cavalry; was in the charge of Yorktown, Williamsburg, seven days' fight at Richmond, second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Upperville, Gettysburg, Falling Water, and others. After the war he went to Plainfield, Ill., and in 1867 went to Newton, Jasper County, Ia.; thence to St. Genevieve County, Mo., in 1870, and in 1873 came to Nora Springs, Rock Grove Township. He is by trade a contractor and mason. He was married May 18, 1866, to Cynthia Culver. They had two children—Harley E. and Effie C. Mrs. Heintzelman died in Marshfield, Mo., and in 1875 Mr. Heintzelman married Sarah Lewis. They have two children—Lulu and Willie. He

2 children  
Heintzelman  
+ ?

was a member of the I. O. O. F., K. P. (in Missouri), A. O. U. W., and the Grand Army of the Republic.

*David A. Hoel*, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Iroquois, Ill., Jan. 8, 1850. His father, James Hoel, is a native of Indiana, who moved to Bremer County, Ia., in 1855, and to this county in 1868, and is still living in Rudd. David A. received his education in the common-schools of Bremer and Floyd Counties. He was married March 24, 1874, to Katie Howard, of Wisconsin. They have had three children, two living—Sydney and Alfred. Mr. and Mrs. Hoel are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Rudd. He is Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He owns eighty acres of fine land.

*F. M. Hubbard*, of the firm of F. M. Hubbard & Son, was born in Indiana in 1830. He was the sixth child of Dr. John and Anna Hubbard, who were early pioneers from Massachusetts and Vermont to Western New York, and from there to Indiana, thence to Illinois in 1836, while Indians still occupied that country. Dr. John Hubbard was a graduate of Williams College, Mass., a son of Major John Hubbard, of Revolutionary fame. F. M. Hubbard spent his boyhood days in Cook County, Ill., until he was twenty years old; then, in 1850, crossed the plains to California, where he stayed until 1854, when he returned to Illinois, studied medicine, and graduated in New York City in 1856. In the same year he was married to Hattie E. Burbank, of Lancaster, Mass., who was the daughter of Aaron and Chloe Burbank. Aaron Burbank was a Baptist minister and graduate of Waterville College, Me. F. M. Hubbard engaged in the practice of medicine at Janesville, Wis., in 1856, but soon abandoned that, and engaged in the patent right business, taking out five patents for inventions while in the business at Ripon, Wis. In 1869 he came to Nora Springs, and has since been engaged in various occupations here, but mostly in the mercantile business. They have four children living—Myra Alice, born in 1858; George Melville, in 1860; Charles Henry, in 1864; Jason Coridon, in 1867, and two dead. George M. is a member of the present firm of F. M. Hubbard & Son, dealers in drugs, jewelry, groceries, music, etc. Also publishers of the *Advertiser*, a little sheet issued weekly (first number July 4, 1882), to represent the interests of Nora Springs and its business men.

*Eli M. Hutchinson*, farmer and stock-raiser, northwest quarter of section 26, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., June 7, 1838. His father, John B. Hutchinson, was a native of the same



county. He was reared on a farm, and was educated in the common-schools. He came to Cedar Rapids, Ia., in 1854, and to Mitchell County in 1855, where he farmed near the Floyd County line till 1873. He built a mill on Rock Creek in 1867. He came to this township in 1873; owns 160 acres of fine land, besides some timber. He was married Dec. 31, 1866, to Mary C., daughter of Wm. G. Dudley (deceased), a native of Edgar County, Ill. They are the parents of six children, five living—Minet A., Mira A., Hattie M., Lizzie M. and Floyd M. He was Postmaster of Meroa Postoffice, Mitchell County, four years; Township Clerk, three years; Assessor, one year; Township Treasurer, one year, and has held other offices of trust in Mitchell County. He is a Master Mason; is a member of Rock Creek Christian church, of which he is an Elder. He served one year and a half in Company K, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry, and eight months in Company K, Twelfth Iowa Infantry; was in the battles of Fort De Rossa, Pleasant Hill, La., Old Oak and others; was ninety days under fire at one time, one-third of his brigade being killed and wounded at Pleasant Hill.

*Luther J. Keyes*, of the publishing firm of Keyes & Blythe, editors of the *Monitor*, is a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., born April 17, 1839. His father, Luther H. Keyes, was a native of Massachusetts, and a carpenter. Luther J. learned his father's trade in his youth, and worked at it five years. In 1854 he went to Laporte, Ia., thence to De Kalb County, Ill., in 1856; two years afterward went to Beloit, Wis., and in 1859 to Laona, Ill. He enlisted in 1861 in Company C, Fifty-fifth Volunteer Infantry, and served four years and four months, participating in all the battles of his regiment. He entered the service as a private, and for meritorious conduct was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant. Upon leaving the service he went to Waverly, Ia., and in 1875 left there and located in Nashua, Ia., and in the fall of that year moved to Marble Rock. In the fall of 1877 he came to Nora Springs, when he established the telephone system here; conducted it four and one-half years, and in January, 1882, became a partner in his present business as editor of the *Monitor*, an enterprising sheet devoted to interests of the order of I. O. O. F. He was married Dec. 25, 1865, to Esther A. Lancaster, of Winnebago County, Ill.

*John A. Kidney* (deceased) was born in Marcellus, Onondaga County, N. Y., Jan. 8, 1823, a son of Robert Kidney, a native of

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., who moved with his family to Cattaraugus County, that State, settling upon a farm. John A. was reared on a farm and educated at the Springville Academy. He taught school and followed the insurance business in his native State until the fall of 1850, when he came West, locating in Dodge County, Wis. He engaged in teaching there, and was married March 21, 1854, at Lowell, Wis., to Waity A. Sweet. After his marriage he followed the mercantile business in Markesan, Wis., two years, thence to Winona County, Minn., in 1856, being among the earliest settlers of that region, and suffering many of the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life, engaging in farming there until 1865, when he came to Nora Springs, and resided here until his death, one of her most prominent and respected citizens. He owned a fine farm near the town and much city property. He was very conversant with law and practiced in the justice courts, and was Justice of the Peace several years. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and was always ready with open purse to subscribe to church and school funds. As a man of rare social qualities, superior mental endowments, he had few superiors, and in his death, which occurred April 9, 1880, Floyd County lost an esteemed and honored citizen.

*Abiah Knapp* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., Feb. 9, 1803, and went with his parents to Delaware County, N. Y., when quite young; remained there till 1816 when they moved to McKean County, Pa. Abiah Knapp worked at the lumber business a number of years in Pennsylvania, and in 1837 went to St. Clair County, Ill., where he worked at the carpenter and joiner's trade; went to Rockford, Ill., in 1840, and remained till 1858, when he came to Floyd County, where he has since resided. He was married Feb. 10, 1826, to Susan Mills. They have had eleven children, seven of whom are living—Robert, Alex, Jane, Aurilla, Ann, Miles and James. One son, Albert, died at Murfreesboro in the late war. Mrs. Knapp died Sept. 5, 1876. April 12, 1877, Mr. Knapp married Mrs. Pamela Sells, *nee* Nickerson.

*James A. Lathrop* was born in Burlington, Vt., Sept. 30, 1828. His father, John Lathrop, also a native of the "Green Mountain" State, died when James A. was ten years old, and he went to live with an uncle, in Middlebury, Vt.; remained there three years and then began to rely on his own resources. His early educational advantages were limited; he can truly be called a self-educated and self-made man. In 1850 he came West to Fond du Lac County,

Wis., and worked a short time as a carpenter and joiner; then worked in different parts of the State as a millwright, till 1855, when he bought land in Waupaca County, Wis., and located on it, and erected a saw-mill; two years later he built a grist-mill in partnership with Daniel Barnum. In 1859 he bought out Mr. Barnum and sold one-fourth interest to his brother-in-law, William West. They carried on the business together for two years when Mr. Lathrop sold out and came to Rock Grove, where he owns a fine farm of 130 acres on section 21. Mr. Lathrop was married in June, 1855, to Rebecca Atkinson. They had one son—William. In 1865 Mrs. Lathrop died, and in 1868 Mr. Lathrop married Jennie Capen. They have three children—Emma, Charles and Lena. He is a member of the Baptist church; is also a member of the I. O. O. F.

*John C. Lindsay*, farmer, section 25, was born near Darlington, Canada West, Aug. 3, 1849. His parents moved to De Kalb County, Ill., when he was quite small. He was educated there in the common schools, his home being on a farm. He came to Floyd County, Ia., in 1865. Jan. 12, 1876, he was married to Ann E. Archard. They have two children—Maud and Mary. He was Constable two years in Mitchell County, Ia.

*James Marshall*, farmer and stock-raiser, Rock Grove Township, was born in Canada East (or Quebec), Nov. 13, 1843. His father, George Marshall, was a native of Yorkshire, England. James Marshall's early life was spent on a farm, his education being received in the common schools. He went to New York State in 1863, from there to De Kalb County, Ill., in 1864, to Black Hawk County, Ia., in 1865, and to this county in 1874, where he settled on section 20, this township, and owns 160 acres of fine land. He was married in October, 1873, to Josephine Forbes. They have three children—Mary, William and Belle. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

*William Mathers*, postoffice Nora Springs, was born in Quebec, Canada, Dec. 22, 1823. He is a son of Wolsey and Mary (Irwin) Mathers, of the North of Ireland. They came to this country in 1820. William grew to manhood in Quebec. He was left an orphan at the age of eight years, and thrown on his own resources for a livelihood. He learned the trade of a harness-maker at the age of ten. He went to Massachusetts in 1845, and from Martha's Vineyard on a whaling voyage, one year; was on the Brazilian man-of-war "Constitution" one year, and on two or three other vessels one year. In 1846, while out on the ocean, he saw a

school of sharks under the peak of Tennerief. On the passage from Rio Janiero to England he saw a man fall from the mizzen top-sail-yard and killed. He saw the Spaniards and Portuguese celebrate "Neptune shaving Greenhorns." They form a police, who seize inexperienced men and go through a farcical shaving, immersing the head of the victim in salt water. They pretend that Neptune comes up the side of the boat out of the sea, and does the shaving with a huge razor of hoop-iron. He fell overboard once. He learned the Spanish and Portuguese languages, and was employed as interpreter. In 1847 he was on the police force in Liverpool seven or eight months. From there he went to New Orleans, and worked at his trade, for the Government contractors. In 1865 he came to this country and farmed for a while, then worked at his trade, which he is still doing in Nora Springs. He was married in Chicago in 1850 to Eliza Slee. They have had twelve children, nine living, seven boys and two girls. From 1853 to 1865 he lived in Boone County, Ill.

*E. W. McNitt* was born Sept. 11, 1831, near Rochester, N. Y., son of John and Julia (Chamberlain) McNitt. He received his education at Beaver Dam, Wis., where his parents located when he was very young. In 1857 he engaged in a mercantile business in Otsego, Wis., which he continued in that place and Beaver Dam until his removal to Floyd County in 1869. He settled at Nora Springs, and engaged in the hardware business. He was elected to the Wisconsin Legislature, serving one term, and also held the office of Mayor of Nora Springs, and at the time of his death, which occurred Oct. 23, 1874, was a member of the Board of Supervisors of Floyd County. He was married Jan. 1, 1856, to Miss Rhoda Boutwell, of New York State. They had four children—Clarence J., Anna B., Harrie L. and Allen R. Mr. McNitt was a man of more than ordinary acquirements, and was held in high esteem by a large circle of friends. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

*Elder Daniel B. Mead* is a native of Cayuga County, N. Y., born in the town of Mentz, Sept. 14, 1817, a son of William Mead, who was born near Newark, N. J. He was reared on a farm, and educated in Wadsworth Academy and Granville College, O., having moved to that State in 1833. He became a member of the Baptist church at the age of eighteen, and five years later commenced preaching in that faith. In 1845 he was given

charge of a church in Berrien County, Mich., where he remained until 1854, then settled in Nora Springs, Floyd County, Ia., where he has since resided, one of the most honored and esteemed citizens of the town. He was united in marriage with Abigail W. Ward on May 4, 1837. Of six children born of this union, five are living—Giles W., Emma M., Eliza, Laura A., and William W. His wife died March 11, 1876, and Oct. 1, 1877, he married Mrs. Lucy J. Allen, widow of the late C. M. Allen. Mr. Mead held the office of Justice of the Peace two years, and served as County School Superintendent a short time. He performed the ceremony for the first couple married in this county, the contracting parties being John Henry and Julia A. Workman.

*Charles W. Morris*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 30, Rock Grove Township, was born in Montgomery County, Ky., Feb. 11, 1844. His father, Wm. Henry Morris, was also a native of the same county. He received a common-school education; moved with his parents to Putnam County, Ind., in 1854. He farmed summers and worked at the shoemaker's trade winters for several years. He came to Iowa in 1873; and settled in Cerro Gordo County, and in 1874 came to Floyd County and settled in this township, where he still resides. He owns 160 acres in this township, forty acres in Cerro Gordo County and 100 acres in Mitchell County. He was married in 1863, to Nancy M., daughter of Joseph T. Eggers, of Indiana. They have two children, Mary F., and Mahal D.

*Halvor Nelson*, proprietor of the Upper Ten Roller Mills, formerly Upper Ten Merchant Mills, Nora Springs, was born in Norway, and came to America, to Rock County, Wis., in 1845, and from there to Clayton County, Ia., in 1848. He has seven children—Nelson H., Peter, Henry, Anna, Barbara, Peer and Isabella C. His mill is a stone structure four and a half stories high, with a frame elevator and feed mill. Uses patent roller system and makes first-class flour, doing both merchant and custom milling. Has nine pair of rolls, two pair of middling stones, and two for corn and feed; has a capacity of 125 barrels daily.

*Myron H. Nickerson*, section 20; postoffice, Nora Springs; was born in Chenango County, N. Y., March 28, 1831. He is a son of Edgar M. Nickerson, a native of New York, but now a resident of Humboldt County, Ia. Mr. Nickerson went to Linn County, Ia., in 1851, from there to Jones County in 1855, and to this county in 1865. He was married in December, 1853, to

Louisa, a daughter of James Snow. They have had four children, three living—Arvine, Sarah and Ina. He has held the offices of County Supervisor and Assessor the past eight years. Is a member of the A. O. U. W.

*Harrison Pierce*, section 6, Rock Grove Township, was born in Wayne County, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1834. His father, John Pierce, was a native of Hampshire, England. Harrison Pierce was educated in the common schools of his native State till 1844, when he came West, to Kenosha County, Wis., and in 1854 came to Floyd County. He enlisted in the late war in the Third Iowa Battery, light artillery, and served about four years; was in the battles of Pea Ridge, Helena, etc. He owns 236 acres of fine land, and is both farming and stock-raising. He married in April, 1876, Mrs. Laura A. Wright, *nee* Fish, and has one child—Annie M. Mrs. Pierce had one son—Afton L. Wright. Mr. Pierce is a member of the A. O. U. W.

*Rev. Edward G. F. Pribbenow*, was born in Prussia, Germany April 8, 1839, where he remained till 1853, when he came to America and to Milwaukee, Wis.; he moved to near Madison, Wis., in 1854, and to Mitchell County, Ia., in the spring of 1869. He came to Floyd County in the fall of 1878, and settled on his present farm when it was wild land. He owns 236 acres of fine land, and is both farming and stock-raising. He was married Jan. 7, 1862, to Mary G. Rinder. They have twelve children—Ferdinand, Amanda, Richard, Julius, Alvina, William, Lydia, Albert, Emeline, John, Adda and Nora. He is a member of the German Methodist church.

*Lewis D. Powers*, one of the prominent citizens of Nora Springs, was born in Geneva Township, Walworth County, Wis., on March 20, 1837, a son of James B. Powers, a native of Maine. He was reared on a farm, and his educational privileges were those of the common schools. He came to Floyd County with his parents in 1856, settling on a farm. He enlisted in 1861 in Company I, Third Iowa Infantry, and served three years, participating in many a hard-fought battle, among them those of Shiloh, Mattamora, and the siege of Vicksburg. Upon returning to Nora Springs he engaged in general trading, and now does a general mercantile business, carrying a full line of goods. He was married Sept. 16, 1865, to Sophronia C. Daniels. They have one child—Alice E. Mr. Powers has been elected to the offices of Township Clerk, Township Trustee, member of the School Board, and

is at present Constable. He has ever been an able and efficient officer, discharging his duties with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his constituents.

*Josiah G. Quinby*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 12, Rock Grove Township, a son of James Quinby, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in Stark County, O., July 20, 1836. They went to Jasper County, Ind., in 1845, and in the fall of 1855 Mr. Quinby came to this county, and settled in Ulster Township. He owns 441 acres of fine land, 160 acres of it in Cerro Gordo County, Ia. He was married in August, 1857, to Edith Kanouse, a daughter of John H. Kanouse, now of Kansas. They have seven children—James, John, Charles, Eda, Nellie, Elmer and Hattie. Mr. Quinby was Township Trustee several terms.

*Murray Roberts*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 12, Rock Grove Township, was born in Winnebago County, Ill., June 3, 1853. He is a son of William W. Roberts, of Pennsylvania. He came to this county with his parents in 1857, where his father died in 1871. He received his education in Rock Grove Township. He was married in December, 1879, to Eda A. Dean. They have one child—William M. He is a member of the Sons of Temperance; owns 120 acres of fine land.

*William W. Roberts* (deceased) was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., Jan 12, 1823. He was a son of Daniel and a grandson of Jacob Roberts, who was six years of age at the time of the Wyoming massacre, but he and his parents escaped just before and went to Luzerne, Pa. William W. went to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1850, and to this county in 1857, where he died March 16, 1872. He was married Oct. 5, 1847, to Fanny Roberts, also a grandchild of Jacob Roberts. They were the parents of ten children, seven living—Zina, Murray, Olara, Julia, Edwin, Ira and Wilson. One son died March 22, 1872, at the age of seventeen.

*Zina Roberts*, eldest child of the preceding, was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., Dec. 27, 1848, and moved with parents to Winnebago County in 1850, and to this county in 1857. Has taught school eight winters, but is at present engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns 120 acres on section 22.

*William G. Robison*, farmer and stock-raiser, born in Knox County, Ohio, March 31, 1828, is a son of Isaac Robison, of the same State. He was educated in the common and subscription schools of an early day. He came to Warren County, Iowa, in 1864, and to this county in 1868. He now owns 159 acres of

fine land. He was married Oct. 20, 1859, to Mary M. Gonser. They have ten children—Emma A., Ida J., Ella L., Tena M., Mary E., Martha M., Mabel B., George W., Eddie and Burnett. He is a member of the German Baptist church of Rudd.

*Harry B. Shaw*, a native of Licking County, Ohio, was born Sept. 19, 1838. He remained there and in Delaware County until 1852, when he came overland to Iowa, settling in Black Hawk County, where he engaged in farming until 1861. Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion, he was one of the first to offer himself on the altar of his country's honor. He became a member of Company I, of the Third Iowa Infantry, commanded by Colonel, now General, M. M. Trumbull, and was in many a hard-fought battle. At the battle of Hatchie River he was severely wounded and made a cripple for life, receiving a cannister shot through the left breast, just above the heart. He now carries a withered hand as an evidence of the part he performed in that memorable conflict. Recovering partially from the wounds, he again re-enlisted in the Veteran Reserve Corps, and remained in the service until May, 1865, when he was honorably discharged, having been in the service three and a half years. In February, 1870, he located in Nora Springs, where he engaged as clerk, and traveling, until 1875, and since that time has been manager of the Spencer House, and conducts a real estate and insurance business. He was married in 1870, to Emma G. S. Spencer, an estimable woman, and a daughter of the late W. G. Spencer (deceased), formerly proprietor of the Spencer House. A sketch of him will be found elsewhere in this work. Four children have blessed this union, viz.: Willie (deceased), Robert (deceased), Lelia E. S. and Bessie M. Mr. Shaw is a quiet, agreeable man, and possessed of much more than ordinary acquirements. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W. and I. O. G. T. fraternities, and politically he favors the Republican party. In religious faith he is a Congregationalist.

*William G. Spencer* (deceased) was born in Westmoreland, N. Y., on June 3, 1813, a son of A. Spencer. He left his native town in 1834 and came West, locating in Chicago, Ill., thence in 1836 to Ogle County, that State. He was married there in 1839 to Elizabeth A. Marshall, and in the same year moved to Rockford, Ill., and, after residing in various localities, he settled in Nora Springs in 1869. He embarked in the furniture business here continuing two years, and at that time built the Spencer House, which he



owned and conducted until his death, which occurred June 16, 1881, and sorrow fell upon many hearts when to the list of the dead was added the name of this honest and upright man. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer had a family of five children, two living—Clara A. and Emma G. One son, George M., aged twenty-seven years, was killed at Menomonee, Wis., by flying timber while driving piles.

*Wm. F. Stewart*, born in Delaware County, N. Y., June 2, 1830, was a son of Alex. Stewart of the same county. He went with his parents to Wyoming County, N. Y., in 1836, and to Rockford, Ill., in 1844. In 1873 he came to Nora Springs, where he sold goods, which has been his occupation since a boy. He was married in the fall of 1852 to Amanda A. Williams and they have had six children; four are living—William, James, Sarah and Frank. Mrs. Stewart died July 13, 1882.

*Augustus Stone*, of the firm of Burgess & Stone, merchants, Nora Springs, was born in Ottawa, Canada, Dec. 16, 1823. His parents were Augustus Stone, Sr., a native of Connecticut, and Triphosa, nee Cutter, of Vermont. He was reared on a farm and educated in the schools of Canada, where he resided until 1844, then moved to Winnebago County, Ill. He remained there until 1856, when he removed to Winnebago County, Wis.; thence to Nebraska in 1872. In 1873 he came to Nora Springs, Ia., where he has since resided and has won the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens. He is a good salesman, an honest man, active and accurate in his business. He was married Mar. 28, 1850, to Miss Emily J. Wheeler, a native of Massachusetts. He is a prominent member of the Baptist church.

*J. Edwin Sullivan*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 8, Rock Grove Township, was born near Niles, St. Joseph County, Mich., July 31, 1844. His father was Thomas Sullivan, a native of Kentucky. J. Edwin came with his parents to Iowa in 1849, and to this county in 1854. He was educated in the schools of Nora Springs; was married Dec. 18, 1873, to Electa G. Montgomery. They have three children—Myrtie M., Charles Le Roy and William A. He owns 100 acres of fine land. Is a member of the I. O. O. F.

*L. D. Sweet*, section 31, Rock Grove Township, was born Nov. 15, 1831, in Upper Canada. His father, John F. Sweet, a native of New York State, came West to Dane County, Wis., in 1839. and to Dodge County, Wis., in 1846. He was a mechanic, but lived on a farm, at which L. D. Sweet has always worked. He

went to California in 1850, and returned in the fall of 1862 to Lowell, Wis. He came to Floyd County, Ia., in the fall of 1865, and settled on the farm where he still resides. He now owns 490 acres. He was married May, 1864, to Agnes H. Dogan. They have three children—Lizzie E., Taylor E. and John F. He is a member of the Baptist church, and is a Master Mason. He has held several township offices.

*Andrew B. Tredway*, banker and grain merchant, Nora Springs, was born in Richfield, Lucas County, O., Mar. 1, 1843, a son of Stutley Tredway, a native of Allegany County, N. Y. His father was a lumber merchant, and he engaged in that business with him in Wisconsin, where the family had moved when he was but three months old, until 1858, and in 1860 entered the employ of a grain firm in Lowell, Wis., with whom he remained four years. He served as Orderly Sergeant in Company C, Fifty-first Wisconsin Volunteers, from 1864 to 1865, and at the close of the war went to North McGregor, Ia., where he engaged as general manager and salesman of Seley & Shaw's wholesale lumber yard until 1869. Then purchased a yard at Pottsville, Ia., which he conducted till the fall of 1871. He came to Nora Springs in September of that year, embarking in the grain business here, and in 1877 built an elevator and feed mill, with a storage capacity of 15,000 bushels. In 1879 he added a banking business, which he has successfully operated since. He was married Jan. 1, 1868, to Josephine M. Sweet, of Lowell, Wis. Of four children born unto them two are living—Stutley W. and Everett M. Mr. Tredwell is serving his second term as Justice of the Peace of Nora Springs, and was Mayor one year. He is an enterprising business man, and a prominent citizen of Floyd County.

*Daniel A. Wheeler*, one of the prominent citizens of Nora Springs, was a son of Daniel Wheeler, Sr., a native of Massachusetts, who moved to New York State about 1835, and to Sheboygan Wis., in 1844. Daniel A. was born in Chenango County, N. Y., Feb. 16, 1840, and was reared and educated in Sheboygan. In 1860 he accepted a clerkship in a law office at Council Bluffs, remaining there two years, and in 1862 he went to Central City, Col., where he engaged in mining six years. He returned to Wisconsin in 1868 and embarked in the grocery business at Omro, continuing until 1872, and in that year he located in Nora Springs. He has been engaged in the lumber business since coming here, and has built up an extensive and lucrative trade. He is a popular

merchant, and is known throughout the county as a man of irreproachable business integrity. He was married in 1871 to Josephine Packard, an estimable lady, of superior social and mental qualities. They have had four children—Mary, Frank, Hattie, and Josephine. Mr. Wheeler served acceptably in the chair of the Mayoralty and has held other local offices.

*John W. Whitesell* was born near St. Thomas, Canada, Aug. 23, 1849. His father, Daniel Whitesell, came to this place in 1852, being the first settler. He carried a bushel of corn meal on foot from Cedar Falls. His father, Aaron Whitesell, was a native of Germany. Daniel Whitesell is now living in Brookings County, D. T. The first school John W. attended was taught by Hon. W. P. Gaylord, in an old log house. Their family lived in a house with no floor for nearly two years; the roof was made of shakes, and not a nail used in the construction of the house. They pounded corn with an iron wedge. When they came here they had no money and were \$5 in debt. Buffalo and deer roamed over the prairies. He now owns 305 acres of fine land on section 20, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married Sept. 4, 1879, to Flora A., daughter of Silas Walker, now of Vernedale, Minn.

*William Workman*, born near Cumberland, Md., April 15, 1811, is a son of Stephen Workman, who moved to Knox County, O., in 1815, and died there, aged 101 years. Mr. Workman came to Rock Grove in 1854, and purchased the place where he now resides, on section 8, of Anthony Overacker. He was first married to Mary Baker and had seven children, six living—Andrew J., Philip, Julia Ann (now Mrs. John Henry), Martha (now Mrs. Alex. Hemphill), Sarah (now Mrs. Alfred Drury), and Catharine (now Mrs. Joseph Shork). Mrs. Workman died in Ohio in 1854. In 1856 Mr. Workman went back to Ohio and Nov. 23 he changed the name of Mrs. Gonser to Mrs. Workman. Mrs. Gonser had eight children, five living—Lucinda, Mary M., Matilda, William H. and Mahala. One daughter, Eliza, died at the age of nineteen. In politics Mr. Workman is a Democrat. In religion he is a German Baptist, being the head and front of that church in this region.

*James Wyatt*, section 31, Rock Grove Township, born in February, 1824, in Summersetshire, England, was a son of John Wyatt, a native of the same place. James Wyatt was educated in England, and came to the United States in 1849, going to Kenosha

County, Wis., and working on a farm till 1856, when he came to Floyd County and settled on the farm where he still resides, which was at that time wild land, and which he has brought under a fine state of cultivation. He was married Oct. 17, 1852, to Elizabeth Price, a native of Dorsetshire, England. They had nine children; eight are living—Charles B., Judson L., Josephine, James W., John B., Harry, Dora and Estella. Mrs. Wyatt died in January, 1875, and May 15, 1877, he married Mrs. L. Hammer. She has one daughter—Blanche Hammer. Mr. Wyatt owns 187 acres of land. He has been Road Supervisor for the past five years.

*Mrs. Kedd-  
her son, Fred Kedd,*



## RUDD TOWNSHIP.

We read of the beauties of Rocky Mountains' scenery, graphically pictured by the pen of the tourist, of the canyons, gorges, and rushing waters as they dash over the ledges; but the traveler in search of nature need not pass the territory of Rudd Township and vicinity to gratify the mind of the most fastidious. None but the lover of nature and nature's work can realize the true beauty and grandeur of such a gentle, undulating prairie landscape as is found in Rudd Township. The wild lilies with their orange blossoms, bedecking the green prairies from east to west, together with the gorgeous prairie clovers, butter-snake root, compass plant, bone-flower, golden rod, and various other plants and flowers, as they wave and bend in the gentle breezes, form one grand panoramic view of rare beauty and grandeur to the casual passer-by. Then the numerous herds of cattle, grazing upon the sunny hill-sides, give life and still more beauty to the picture. Interspersed with these plats of wild prairies are vast fields of waving grain—wheat, oats, rye, flax and corn, the staple products of the county.

### ORGANIC.

Rudd Township was set off from Rock Grove and Floyd Townships in 1870, and comprised its present territory, except the east half of sections 12, 13 and 24, township 96, range 18, which was set off from Rock Grove Township, and attached to this township in June, 1874. It now contains thirty-six and a half square miles of as beautiful and fertile prairie as can be found in the State of Iowa. The township received its name from the village of Rudd (see history of Rudd), located on sections 18 and 13 of this township.

The first white settlers in the present limits of Rudd Township were John B. Hemphill, William Dean, John Fox and Loomis Colson, all of whom located here in 1853, before the land came into market. Hemphill and Colson located on section 18, Dean on section 12, and Fox on section 19. Hemphill now resides on section 18, being the only one of that number still living in the township. Dean resides on section 11, Rock Grove Township; Fox

resides in Richardson County, Neb., near Middleburg, and Colson is somewhere in the State of Kansas.

Many were the hardships and privations of these pioneers. Others soon followed and participated in these hardships; among them is the popular and well-known D. S. Wood, for date of whose settlement see his biography.

CRIMINAL.

On Aug. 20, 1859, an emigrant wagon passed through Rudd Township, crossing Flood Creek at Bennett's Ford. Upon going to the creek for some water, Mrs. Bennett heard some cries, which she supposed to be those of a kitten that her son had been trying to drown the day before. She decided to hunt it up and release it from the stone which had been tied to its neck; but upon finding the supposed object of her search, it proved to be a small child. It had been thrown into the creek, and taken out for dead, and hid in a pile of drift-wood. Mrs. Bennett took it quickly to the house, and some of the citizens followed the emigrants, and arrested them for murder. They were bound over to court, but were finally acquitted from lack of evidence, save that which was circumstantial only.

It seems, from what the citizens tell us, that they evidently meant to kill the child, and therefore hid it in the drift-wood. They had also hid its clothes in a hollow log, which was more strong evidence that they meant to murder it. The parties claimed, however, that the child fell out of the wagon into the water, and drowned before they could rescue it, and that the reason they put it in the drift-wood was because they were poor, and could not give it a respectable burial, and did not wish to trouble the citizens. They were then allowed to pursue their course westward.

RUDD VILLAGE.

The village of Rudd (formerly Danville) was laid out and platted in the fall of 1869, by James Swartwood, who built the Swartwood House and a warehouse the same fall. Mr. Swartwood bought the first bushel of grain for shipment at Rudd about the time of erecting the warehouse. Basset & Hunting also erected a warehouse in '69, and George Hall erected one in the spring of 1870.

The first store was erected and kept by A. L. Plummer, in the fall of 1869.

In February, 1870, N. Nienstedt built and established a store of general merchandising. He is still engaged in trade, and is doing a large and lucrative business. The first blacksmith shop was built by A. J. Brundage, in the spring of 1870. The railroad depot was erected in the fall of 1869. The first elevator in Rudd was erected in the spring of 1878, by J. W. Dawson. It is now owned and operated by E. F. Bacon. Its dimensions are 24 x 34 feet, 34 feet high, and has a capacity of 20,000 bushels.

Basset, Hunting & Co. built an elevator in July, 1878; on the 11th of March, 1880, it burned, also the other warehouse burned. Basset & Hunting rebuilt in July of the same year. The dimensions of the present elevator are 24 x 24 feet, and has a capacity of 10,000 bushels.

Rudd now contains two general stores, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one hotel, one harness shop, two meat markets, one physician, one shoe shop, one barber shop and one saloon. It is a beautiful little village, and situated on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. The postoffice was established at Rudd soon after the laying out of the town, the one at Flood Creek having been discontinued in 1859.

#### NAME.

The original name of the village was Danville, but was afterward changed to Rudd, in honor of one of the directors of the C., M. & St. P. R. R. This gentleman insisted upon the place being called after him, and offered as an inducement the bequest of \$1,000 to the first church organization at that place. Two churches have been duly organized, and he has disgraced himself by squarely breaking his promise; and when the matter is mentioned to him, he puts on a dignified air and says he remembers nothing about such a promise. This mean, cowardly act should be portrayed in its true light, and handed down to future ages, so that all generations that shall live in Rudd in the ages to come will be conversant with the manner in which their "burg" received her present name.

At the first election held in 1870, the following officers were elected: Trustees, J. W. Elliott, A. S. Hubbard, Ed. Elliott; Clerk, J. W. Elliott; Assessor, James Swartwood; Collector, D. C. Jeralds; Justices, D. L. Wood, James Connor; Constables, G. D. Clark, Geo. Elliott.

The present officers are: Trustees, G. B. Haney, G. W. Brundage, B. F. Shipley; Clerk, C. P. Turner; Assessor, R. H. Willett; Justices, D. S. Wood, L. P. Miner, D. K. Moore; Constable, J. D. Clark.

#### AN IRON BRIDGE

was built across Flood Creek at the village of Rudd in 1872, which is a master-piece of skill and labor.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The educational system of Rudd is up with the time. There is at the place a fine large school building 50 x 30 feet, 22 feet high, with a hall on the second floor. The first school in the present house was taught by Daniel W. Adron, assisted by Miss May Hyde. There are five other school buildings in the township. The first school-house in the township was built in 1863, on John Hemphill's land, by Alex. Hemphill, a half mile north of the present village. Previous to that year, the children in that vicinity were sent to the school in what is now Rock Grove Township, to a house near Widow Toothman's.

#### RELIGIOUS.

*The First Baptist Church* of Rudd was organized July 13, 1878, with nine constituent members, by Rev. Dr. M. E. Arkills, who has been its pastor until the present time. The names of the original members are as follows: M. E. Arkills, Rachel A. Arkills, Sarah L. Arkills, Alice A. Arkills, Katie J. Clark, Ellen Patterson, R. R. Turner, Frances Turner and May Turner. At present the membership numbers thirty-three. There have been twenty accessions by baptism, and eleven by letter and experience. Services twice each month in the Rudd school hall.

*The Methodist Episcopal class* at Rudd was organized in 1869. They, too, worship in the Rudd school hall. The other statistics of this church we have not been able to obtain.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Rev. Moses E. Arkills, M. D.*, was born in Ulster County, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1826. He is a son of Nathaniel S. Arkills, a native of Sullivan County, N. Y., who moved to Tompkins County, N. Y., in 1835. He was ordained as a minister in the Baptist church Nov. 26, 1858, in the West Danby church, by G. W. Huntley. He has



been a pastor of churches, with the exception of two years, since that time. In 1865 he went to Sycamore, Ill.; in 1867, to Malta, Ill.; in June, 1868, to Clarkson, Ia.; in January, 1869, to Fredericksburg, Ia., where he remained pastor of the church till 1877, when he came to Rudd. He read medicine and practiced under Dr. Rufus Talmage, of Enfield, N. Y., from 1855 to 1858; and under Dr. Benedict, of Havana, N. Y., for two years. He has built up a good practice here, and is pastor of the Baptist church in Rudd. He was married Feb 2, 1852, to Rachel A. Bartlett. They have six children — Willard B., Jane A., Hattie, Sarah L., Alice A., and Lulu M.

*Elijah F. Bacon*, Rudd, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Aug. 21, 1830; is a son of Noah Bacon, who moved to Waukesha County, Wis., in 1843. He came to Waverly, Iowa, in 1864, and to Rudd in May, 1879, and bought the Dawson elevator. He deals in grain, live-stock and lumber, and is doing a good business. He was married Sept. 30, 1855, to Adelaide S. Barker. They have eight children — Lillian, Mary A., William F., Millie, Jeremiah D., Freddie, Katie and Julius. He was a member of the I. O. O. F. before coming here, but there is no order here.

*Jesse Conner*, born in Columbia County, Penn., in 1818, was a son of John Conner of the same State. When he was quite small his parents moved to New York State, and ten years later to Canada, where they both died. His mother was Sarah Lemon; her father was an extensive lumberman and farmer. In 1854 he came West, to Dane County, Wis., and in 1864 came to this county. There was no house west of h., before reaching Flood Creek. He was married in 1847, to Mary Pimlot, a native of England. Of their eleven children, nine are living — Anna J., Belvedier, Mary, Hattie, Thos. F., Wm. J., John, Jesse and Henry. He owns 360 acres on section 29, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He is a member of the Advent Christian church.

*Harrison Eaton*, born in Wyoming County, N. Y., May 11, 1844, is a son of Amasa Eaton, a native of Pennsylvania. He moved to De Kalb County, Ill., in 1854. He enlisted in 1861, in Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry, and served three years. He was in the battles of Pea Ridge, Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Resaca, Atlanta, and others. Since the war he has been engaged in farming. In 1863 he went to Mitchell County, Ia.; he bought land in this county, on section 19, Rudd Township,

and in 1870 came here and settled on it, and still makes it his home. He owns 127 acres of fine land, and is engaged in both farming and stock-raising. He was married in 1867 to Eliza Garbert. Of their six children, five are living — Ida, Albert, Myrtilla, Willie and George. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

*Edward Elliott*, born in Livingston County, N. Y., June 28, 1837, is a son of Thomas Elliott, who moved with his family to Washington County, Wis., in 1845. In 1866 he came to this county, where he owns 337 acres of land. He resides on section 34, Rudd Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has been Assessor two terms. He is a member of the Christian church, which holds services each Sabbath at the King School-house.

*Geo. Elliott*, son of Thomas Elliott, now of this township, was born in Livingston County, N. Y., Aug. 31, 1840. He came West with his parents and settled in Washington County, Wis., in 1845, and in June, 1865, came to this county, where he owns 120 acres of fine land on section 32, Rudd Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married Nov. 5, 1871, to Lydia Smith. They have three children—Herbert, Edward and Lydia E.

*John W. Elliott*, born in Washington County, Wis., Nov. 4, 1847, is a son of Thomas Elliott, a native of Ireland, who came to America when young, and now resides in Rudd Township. John W. was educated in the Osage Seminary, and came with his parents to this county in May, 1866. He was married June 18, 1880, to Emma A. Neville, a daughter of Elisha Gallup. They have one child—Elsie. Mr. Elliott owns 160 acres on section 34, Rudd Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. Mrs. Elliott owns 80 acres in Cedar Township. He has been Township Clerk one year.

*Wm. W. Gutches*, born near Chicago, Cook County, Ill., Feb. 15, 1851, is a son of Morris Gutches, a native of New York, and at present a resident of Floyd—this county. He went to Parkersburg, Iowa, in 1870, and in 1872 came to this county, where he owns 560 acres of fine land. He is one of Floyd County's enterprising young men. His home is on section 35, Rudd Township. In September, 1872, he married Sarah Billings. They have three children—Jennie, Ethel, and an infant boy.

*John B. Hemphill*, born in Clearfield, Clearfield County, Penn., Jan. 20, 1831, is a son of James Hemphill, and came West with

his father in 1848, and settled in Boone County, Ill. In 1853 he came to Rudd (then Rock Grove) Township, where he now owns 240 acres of fine land, on section 13, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. When he came here it was all wild prairie, the nearest neighbor being at Rock Grove, five miles away. He took his wheat to McGregor, 100 miles away, and sold it for less than half a dollar per bushel. A few elk and buffalo and droves of deer roamed over the prairie. Mr. Hemphill, Wm. Dean, John Fox, and Loomis Colson all settled in the present limits of this township in 1853. He was married July 4, 1852, to Julia A. Dean, a sister of Wm. Dean, of Rock Grove Township. They are the parents of seven children, six living—Mary L., Charlotte E., Frank E., John W., Edward W., and Dana E.; Walter L. is deceased. He served his township as Assessor two years.

*James Hoel*, born in Hamilton County, O., March 14, 1822, is a son of Aaron Hoel, who moved to Iroquois County, Ill., in 1834, and settled on the wild prairie. His school advantages were very limited. He came to Bremer County, Ia., in 1875, and to this county in 1868. He was married in March, 1846, to Alice Fleming. Of their eight children six are living—William, David, James, Laura, Mary and Etna. One daughter, Martha, the wife of Eli Griggs, died at the age of twenty-two.

*Robert King*, born in Niagara, Canada West, Feb. 8, 1820, is a son of Lewis and Elizabeth (Sanderson) King, the former a native of Lower Canada and of French descent, and the latter of English descent. In 1837 he went to Buffalo, N. Y., and two weeks later to Cleveland, then enlisted in the Patriot war and served two months, when the army disbanded. In the spring of 1838 he went to Lorain County, Ohio, and hired out to William Tillotson. In 1839 he went to Schuyler County, Mo.; in 1844, to Iowa County, Wis.; in 1852 to Lawrence County, Mo., and in 1857 came to Floyd County and settled in section 28, Rudd Township, where he still resides. May 17, 1843, he married Charlotte M., daughter of William Tillotson. Of their six children five are living—Ethan A., Edgar D., William R., Frank T. and Ettie. One son died at the age of one year. Mr. King has been Township Trustee three years, and School Director several terms. He is a member of the Christian church.

*George Kirley*, born in Lewis County, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1846, is a son of Michael Kirley, a native of Ireland, who came to America when quite young. In 1856 Mr. Kirley moved to Cheboygan

County, Mich., and in 1865 came to this county. He is residing on section 33, Rudd Township, where he owns seventy acres and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married Dec. 30, 1873, to Bridget A. Casey. They have four children—Stephen M., William B., Agnes E. and Mary M. He was Justice of the Peace two years. The family are members of the Catholic church.

*Eben L. Mansfield*, born in Waldo County, Me., in January, 1830, is a son of Daniel Mansfield, a native of Massachusetts. His early education was received in the common school. He came West in 1844 and settled in Franklin County, Ill., and in 1855 came to this county, settling on a farm on section 13, Rudd Township. He was married in 1858 to Angeline Dean, a sister of William Dean, of Rock Grove Township. Of their five children two are living—Ira M. and Julia M., now Mrs. Fox. One son, Willie, died at the age of fourteen, and a daughter, Mary (Mrs. Thomas), at the age of thirty.

*Lyman P. Miner*, a son of Jacob Miner, deceased, was born in Erie County, N. Y., Oct. 6, 1841, and went to Iowa County, Wis., in 1857. He enlisted in the late war in Company C, Thirty-first Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served three years, mostly on detached service. In the fall of 1864 he joined Sherman and went with him to the sea. After the war he went to Rock County, Wis., and in the spring of 1872 he came to this county. He owns 160 acres of fine land on section 34, Rudd Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married Dec. 19, 1867, to Mary M. Yates. They have two children—Cora A. and Lyman E. He has been Justice of the Peace for the past six years; is a Mason.

*Augustus Nienstedt*, merchant and Postmaster of Rudd, was born in Goslar, Kingdom of Hanover (now Prussia), Germany, Aug. 15, 1836. His father, Christopher Nienstedt, came to this country, to New York City, in the spring of 1850, and his family came a few months later. In 1856 he came to Dubuque, Iowa, and clerked in a furniture store eight years; then worked at farming four years, and then returned to the store and remained till 1870, when he came to Rudd and established a general store, which he still runs, doing a business of \$20,000 annually. He was appointed Postmaster of Rudd Jan. 8, 1875. He was married Dec. 25, 1862, to Wilhelmina Wunderlich. They have seven children—Bertha, Clara, Minnie, George, Nellie, Augusta and Gertrude. He has been School Treasurer of Rudd for the past ten years.

*Henry A. Payne*, son of Apollos R. Payne, a native of Massachusetts, and Polly (Oandler) Payne, of New York State, was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, Dec. 9, 1830. In 1852 he went to Massachusetts, and in 1854 to Dane County, Wis. In the fall of 1862 he came to this county, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 21, Rudd Township. In June, 1857, he was married to Mrs. Jane Naylor, a daughter of George Pimlott. She was a native of England, and came to Canada when sixteen years old. The first summer they were here, the Indian troubles occurred in Minnesota. Mrs. Payne had many scares. At one time she was left alone seven days and nights, while Mr. Payne went to McGregor with wheat. It was all wild prairie, the nearest neighbor being a mile and a half distant. Mr. Payne is said to be the largest man in the county.

*Frank Sherwin*, section 21 ; postoffice, Osage ; was born in Outagamie County, Wis., in June, 1852. He is a son of Herman Sherwin, a native of New York, now of Springvale, Wis., born Sept. 4, 1820. He is a prominent man in Wisconsin. His portrait will be found in the History of Fond du Lac County. His wife's maiden name was Sarah D. Coddington. Frank Sherwin came to this county in the spring of 1875. He owns 80 acres of fine land, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married in March, 1875, to Clara Elliott. They have three children—Frank E., Howard H. and Ralph L.

*Henry Summers*, born in Canada East, Sept. 7, 1849, is a son of William Summers, a native of England, who moved to Clinton County, N. Y., in 1851. His early life was spent on a farm, and his education received in the common schools. He came to Calmar, Ia., in 1868; to Fort Atkinson, Ia., in 1869, and to Rudd in 1876. He was engaged in the grain business in Fort Atkinson, and has carried on the same business since coming to Rudd. He now owns a one-half interest in the elevator of Basset, Hunting & Co., of Rudd. He was married May 25, 1875, to Matilda Krumm, of Fort Atkinson. They have one child—Cleone.

*James Swartwood*, born in Newfield, Tompkins County, N. Y., June 21, 1822, is a son of Dane B. Swartwood, of Wilkesbarre, Penn. He spent his early boyhood days on a farm, and was educated at the Homer and Groton academies; then read law and was admitted to the bar at Ithaca, New York, in 1844, and practiced two years. In 1849 he came West, and went to Fond du Lac, Wis.; in 1853, removed to Sycamore, Ill., and in September, 1864,

came to Rudd, and the following April brought family here. He originally owned the entire town site of Rudd, which he laid out in 1869. He gave one half of it to the railroad company. He was married Jan. 1, 1848, to Paulina E. Adams. They have had eight children, two living—Isabel and Anna O. One daughter, Myra C., died at the age of twenty-seven. He has held the offices of Assessor, has been Justice of the Peace several years, and County Supervisor three years.

*Ole Tostenrud*, farmer and stock-raiser, section 20, Rudd Township, was born in Norway, July 22, 1856; his father, Lars Tostenrud, brought his family to America, and settled in Iowa, in 1860, and in 1867 came to this county. There were six children in his father's family, four living—Ollustia, Ole, Laura and Emma. Mary and Helen are deceased. Mr. Tostenrud owns eighty acres of fine land; his parents make their home with him.

*Rufus R. Turner*, born near Utica, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1817, is a son of William Turner, of the same place. He went to White Water, Wis.; Jackson County, Wis., and Boone County, Ill., and finally, in 1876, to Rudd Township, and settled on the farm of forty acres, on section 10, where he still resides, engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was married Jan. 13, 1848, to Mrs. Frances R. Knight, widow of Augustus Knight, and daughter of James Hammond. Of their five children, four are living—William R., Nelson E., James A. and May A. Mrs. Turner had two children by her former marriage—Cynthia M. and Henry B. Knight. They are members of the Baptist church.

*Aaron B. West*, a son of Simeon West, was born in Bradford County, Penn., Jan. 6, 1827. He went to Waukesha County, Wis., in 1849; to McGregor, Iowa, in 1862, and came to this county in 1870. He is a farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 28, Rudd Township. He was married April 18, 1847, to Mrs. Sarah Goff, a daughter of Wm. Knox. They had six children—Wm. M., Chas. W., Milton W., Alice A., John A. and Sarah E. Mrs. West died Aug. 11, 1876, and Dec. 19, 1876, Mr. West married Mrs. Jane Elliott, widow of Wm. Elliott, and daughter of Mr. Webb. She had six children by her former marriage, three living—Eliza J., Mary A. and Arnilda. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*David S. Wood*, born in Upper Canada, March 29, 1827, is a son of Joseph Wood, a native of New Jersey, who came West and settled in Boone County, Ill., in 1842. In 1851 he came to Cedar

County, Iowa, and in 1854 came to this county, and selected land where he still resides, on section 18, township 96, range 17. When he came here it was wild prairie land, inhabited by deer and wolves, but he has changed it to a finely cultivated farm. He owns 182 acres, and is engaged in both farming and stock-raising. He was married Feb. 22, 1854, to Harriet E. Thomas. They are the parents of six children, three living—George H., Ada E. and Delos W. One son, Adelbert, died at the age of fifteen; another, Charlie, at the age of seven, and a daughter, Hattie, aged six months. He has been Justice of the Peace, except for a short time, for the past eighteen years; has held the office of County Supervisor for the past three years; is now serving the second term.



## SCOTT TOWNSHIP.

Scott Township was detached from Union in June, 1861, and comprised congressional township 94 north, of range 18 west, and the south tier of sections in congressional township 95 north, of range 18 west, and has never been changed.

### TOPOGRAPHICAL.

There is a peculiar, instinctive characteristic of man, which seems to lead him, as it were unconsciously and imperceptibly, in the footsteps of progress, and direct him to locate in that part of an unsettled country which is destined to become, in the near future, a beautiful and fertile township. It is probably to be attributed to this innate feature of finite man that Scott Township has the many prosperous farmers of to-day. Taken as a whole there can scarcely be more desirable land in the county than this township. Here everything exists in abundance, and the country is richly embellished with the beauties of nature, and, all in all, it seems to be one grand and lovely combination of the several varieties of pure prairie land and of art in which the former largely predominates; for civilize the country all you may, improve it all you can, and then bring to bear upon it the inventions wrought out by all the skill and ingenuity of man, then compare its condition with what it was in its early pristine state, when the land was run over by the red man's ponies, and the prairies were covered with tall, waving grass, with its green, flowery carpet, its undulating surface, interspersed here and there with wild flowers which sent forth their sweet perfumes as a presentiment of the coming future,—do all of this, and you will find the conditions incomparable to the busy scenes of Scott's more densely populated sister townships, with her own rural simplicity; of the two the former one would gradually fade away like the rays of the setting sun. But no commendatory notice can do justice to the rural beauty of Scott Township. Scott Township embraces a territory of forty-two square miles, principally prairie, and but little timber, that being on the northeast corner of sections 35 and 36, of 95 N., 18 W., and section 1, of 94 N., 18 W., or those sections that are intersected by



the waters of Shell Rock River. The land throughout the township is peculiarly rich, and adapted to corn, small grain and dairying. It is watered by two small creeks, besides Shell Rock River, running easterly across the township, emptying into Shell Rock at points in Union Township. Cold Water Creek touches the two southwest sections of 94 N., 18 W., passing out of the county on the land owned by B. S. Gilman. On section 16 is quite a large fossil deposit, petrified shells and bones being found inside of the limestone and other small stones. The land bordering the Shell Rock resembles the intervals of the Connecticut River as to the "lay," and, from the farm of the Montrose's, presents a wonderfully striking landscape.

#### ELECTIONAL AND OFFICIAL.

The first election held in the township was in April, 1861, but by some unknown, and probably excusable, reason the official records were never handed in to at least three of the township clerks in the past, and Mr. Oaks, the present Township Clerk, hence the impossibility to give much early electional and official records.

The assessor's list for 1866, the earliest record extant, gives the following persons assessed: Wm. O. Crumb, Egbert Davis, N. P. Inman, Samuel Kinney, N. J. Lee, E. E. Mott, Job Randall, Daniel Shook, C. A. Crumb, Absalom Gleason, Joseph Daniels, J. Kelsey, Hiram Losee, Milton Rowland, Isaac Sharp and I. H. Tree.

The same year the live-stock assessed and total value is as follows:

Eighty-three heads of cattle, valued at \$1,440; eighty-nine sheep, valued at \$178; twenty-four hogs, valued at \$34; thirty-one horses, whose value was estimated to be \$1,655. Total value of live-stock in township, \$3,307. The present valuation is: Cattle, 1,106, value \$7,760; horses, 459, value, \$10,583; asses, 3, value \$80; sheep, 163, value \$121; swine, 1,290, value \$1,537.

#### ASSESSORS.

Since 1873 the following persons have been regularly elected Assessors: J. A. Rex, 1873 and '74; Seth M. Blood, 1875; Frank D. Burlingame, 1876; T. W. Nicholson, 1877-'78; F. D. Burlingame, 1879-'80, and is the present incumbent.

Cyrus H. Oakes has been annually elected Township Clerk since 1873; also as a member of the County Board of Supervisors since 1875, serving now his third term.

The Trustees of the township since 1869, with the exception of two years, have been as follows:

1869.—Uriah S. Waist, William Galbraith, Samuel Kenny.

1870.—E. D. Montrose, Samuel Kenny, Wm. Galbraith.

1873.—I. B. Schermerhorn, Blair Barney, E. D. Montrose.

1874.—Blair Barney, E. D. Montrose, A. J. Donney.

1875.—Jacob A. Rex, George Schultz, Samuel Kinney.

1876.—Blair Barney, Isaac Sharp, August Mauch.

1877.—Blair Barney, August Mauch, J. A. Barnum.

1878.—Blair Barney (one year), Isaac Sharp (two years), August Mauch (three years). Note: The change in the election, one trustee to serve three years, electing one each year, necessitated one of the three to withdraw. It was pleasantly decided by drawing lots, and decided as above years indicate.

1879.—J. P. Miller.

1880.—Geo. Schultz.

1881.—H. Mauch.

The following is the number of polls cast at each October election since 1873:

YEAR.	ELECTORS.	YEAR.	ELECTORS.
1873.....	60	1878.....	78
1874.....	54	1879.....	100
1875.....	74	1880.....	94
1876.....	77	1881.....	101
1877.....	63		

The earliest Road Supervisors that we have record of were: D. W. Cornish and Henry Eads. The present ones are: C. J. Bickford, Thomas Garber, James Galbraith, J. W. Nicholson, G. L. Brown, Charles Dean, A. J. Esser, and B. S. Gilman.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

The Secretary's record shows the following as the first minutes: "First meeting was called to order by H. Losee, on motion of N. P. Inman. Voted to raise one-half mill on the dollar for school

purposes; also to leave repairing of school-house to Board of Directors. Wm. O. Crumb, President; E. Davis, Treasurer; H. Losee, Secretary."

"April 23, 1864.—A motion that A. Gleason be appointed a committee of one to settle school matters with Union Township. Carried."

"Motion: That Scott has seven months' school. Carried."

The following September a meeting was called. Among other matters Wm. O. Crumb and Isaac Sharp were appointed a committee to see to finishing the school-house. The following January, 1865, H. Losee and William O. Crumb were appointed a committee to investigate the "dues" of Scott Township. There was an unimportant meeting the 16th of March, and another the 26th. During this year (1865) Joel Lee, H. Losee were chosen Sub-Directors for districts 1 and 2. One mill on the dollar was raised as contingent fund; two mills on the dollar for teachers' fund. One dollar was voted for a trip for each of the members of the Board to Charles City; and one dollar to the Secretary for recording minutes of each meeting.

The first record of teachers and schools are as follows, though undoubtedly the old log house and subscription schools comes in long prior to this.

#### EARLY SCHOOLS.

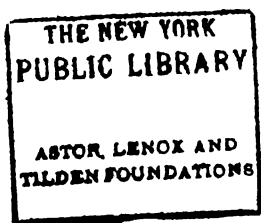
As the earlier records of the actions in the township territory, now Scott, have been lost, or laid beyond the reach of the present residents, but few facts regarding the schools and their teachers can be given as authentic. We have no positive record until later than 1865, and it is unfair to suppose the settlers had no schools in their midst before this. Schools were kept in those days by crude systems, all over the county, and why not in 94 north, 18 west? And so we can give nothing better than a supposition based on a description given the writer orally—not saying schools, or teachers or its wanton rudeness existed there but the presumption that it might.

#### FIRST SCHOOLS.

1865, Nov. 13. Sub-District No. 1.—Teacher, Laura Stearns; length of school, three months (sixty days); salary, \$75; average cost per pupil, 39 cents.



*George Worsfield*



1866, May 8. Sub-District No. 1.—Teacher, Laura Stearns; length of school, four months (eighty days); salary, \$100; average cost per pupil, 30 cents.

1866, Nov. 5. Sub-District No. 1.—Teacher, Carrie E. Waste; length of school, four months (seventy-nine days); salary, \$100; average cost per pupil, 14 cents, 2 mills.

1867, Dec. 2. Sub-District No. 1.—Teacher, H. L. Weatherell; length of school, four months (eighty days); salary, \$88; average cost per pupil, 12 cents, 3 mills.

The enrollment, average attendance and teachers' names for spring term of 1882 can be seen from the following table, from the County Superintendent's report:

SUB-DISTRICT.	ENROLLMENT.	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.	TEACHERS.
1.....	17	18.7	Nellie S. Merrill.
3.....	16	9.3	Mrs. Baldwin.
4.....	20	14	Ella Comstock.
5.....	13	11.8	Blair Barney.
6.....	19	16	Lucy Lorenz.
7.....	15	12.7	Dwight Merrick.
8.....	14	11.3	Jennie V. Reed.

We give the names of some of the sub-directors for different years, to show the increase of sub-districts:

1866, March 12.—I. Sharp, Wm. O. Crumb, A. R. Blodgett (September meeting).

1869, March 6.—Daniel Joseph, Milton Rowland, E. D. Montrose.

1870, March 5.—E. D. Montrose, J. B. Schermerhorn, A. J. Denney.

The present officers are: J. P. Miller, President; A. W. Montrose, Secretary; J. B. Schermerhorn, Treasurer.

The Sub-Directors are: John Kreider, Samuel Kinney, J. P. Miller, Geo. Shultz, W. E. Efner, B. Courtwright, J. J. Maxwell, Andrew J. Esser.

There are eight large, convenient and neat-looking school-houses (20'x 30) to-day, which speaks well for the growth of the township.

## RELIGIOUS.

Scott Township, although having no church edifices, is well supplied with religious teachings, and has been for a long while. There has been, at different seasons, preaching in nearly every school-house in the township—at least in Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8. This summer there is preaching in Nos. 1, 6 and 7; and Sabbath-schools in Nos. 2 and 7. Rev. Mr. Grumley, a Methodist preacher from Cerro Gordo County, preaches Thursday evening every fortnight, in Sub district School-house No. 6, and Friday evening in No. 8. In No. 1, the Methodist preacher from Rockwell preaches.

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

To while away the long winter evenings the citizens living within Sub-district No. 5, have held lyceums. They have always been quite well attended, the exercises being, in common with other social gatherings of this nature, speaking, recitations, debates, a paper, etc.

There was a grange organized in '73 or '74, with about twenty charter members. It was in existence for about two years. C. H. Oaks was Master.

## FIRST EVENTS.

The first township election was held in the Kinney School-house, on section 11.

The first sermon was preached by Loral Inman, a resident of the township, afterward of Rockford, and now deceased.

The first furrow turned over for earnest agricultural intentions was on section 12, Charles Smith being the "husbandman."

There is one township postoffice named "Scott," established about 1877, Mrs. Mary Waller, Postmistress, situated in the center of the township.

The first forge was built by Uriah Tree, on section 2, 94 N., 18 W. He has since moved to Verndale, Minn., where many of Floyd's oldest settlers immigrated a few years ago. A shop is now run by P. Shultz on the same section.

The first birth was that of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Sharp, whom they named George.

One of the earliest Justices of the Peace was Edmont Rose. The present gentlemen holding the office are J. B. Schermerhorn and G. L. Brown.

The first marriage within the limits of the township was Wm. Down to Phebe Down. It was the immediate result of better resolves, and a re-kindling of old loves—they having been married and divorced previous to coming to Floyd County. "True love never does run smoothly."

The first death was that of the Riddle child, and the uncle, by lightning, in June, 1855.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Thomas Alexander* was born in Belmont County, Ohio, Sept. 7, 1833. He left there in the fall of 1864, and went to Canada; remained there until the fall of 1879, when he came to Floyd County, Iowa, and settled on section 33, Scott Township, where he still resides, engaged in farming, raising corn and stock. He has 320 acres of fine land. He was married in Ohio, Feb. 22, 1855, to Catherine B. Atkinson. They had one child—John F., born Dec. 7, 1855. Mrs. Alexander died Oct. 15, 1857. He was married a second time May 25, 1858, to Matilda Sparling. By this union there were three children—W. S., born Aug. 9, 1859; Agnes, Dec. 22, 1860, and Olivia J., Jan. 2, 1863. Mrs. Matilda Alexander died Aug. 28, 1881. Politically, Mr. Alexander is a Democrat, and in his religious belief is a Baptist.

*T. J. Barnum*, one of the prominent citizens of Scott Township, was born in the State of New York, July 3, 1819. He was reared and educated in his native State, and made it his home until 1864, when he came West, and in the fall of 1867 settled in Winneshek County, Iowa. He followed farming there four years, then moved to Floyd County, settling on section 35, Scott Township, where he owns 80 acres of finely cultivated land. He was married in 1839, to Nancy Lewis, a native of the Green Mountain State, born in 1820. They have one child—Menard, born in New York in 1845. In his political views Mr. Barnum is a Democrat.

*G. L. Brown* was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., Oct. 8, 1840. His parents moved to Pennsylvania when he was three years old, and from there, fourteen years later, to Illinois. He lived in Ogle and Winnebago counties, Ill., till 1868, when he came to Floyd County, Iowa, where he has since resided, following the occupation of farming. He owns 240 acres of land, 160 in Scott Township, Floyd County, and 80 acres adjoining, on section 1, Binnezette Township, Butler County. He raises both live-stock



and grain. Politically, he is a Republican; has held the office of Justice of the Peace eight years, and is Road Supervisor. He was married in October, 1860, to Martha McNeill, a native of Winnebago County, Ill., born Nov. 17, 1844. They are the parents of seven children—Charles E., born Nov. 16, 1861; Mary M., Dec. 26, 1863; Cora D., Feb. 20, 1866; Thomas H., Feb. 17, 1867; John J., March 9, 1869; George W., March 15, 1871; William H., Aug. 15, 1873.

*Benjamin Courtwright* was born in Monroe County, Penn., Aug. 2, 1826. He moved to Illinois in 1866, where he remained till 1874, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., and settled on section 35, Scott Township, where he has 160 acres of good, well-improved land. His entire life, with the exception of one year spent in Mendota, Ill., has been spent in farming. He is neutral in his political views, and has held the office of School Director. He was married May 4, 1853, to Catharine Transue, a native of Monroe County, Penn., born Aug. 24, 1830. They have eight children—John, born Oct. 4, 1851; Anna E., March 5, 1853; Alice, April 26, 1858; Isaac, May 28, 1860; William A., March 3, 1862; Mary M., March 5, 1864; Sabrina, Dec. 24, 1868. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Dexter W. Dean* was born in De Kalb County, Ill., Nov. 17, 1856, where he resided till 1881. He had previously made several visits to Iowa, and at one time, 1865, remained some time. Finally, in 1881, he moved to Floyd County, and settled on section 27, Scott Township, where he and Franklin Keith own 650 acres of fine land in partnership. He was married in Illinois, June 8, 1878, to Phoebe Riddle, who was born in Pennsylvania, Nov. 3, 1856. They have one child—Ellsworth, born in Illinois, Nov. 14, 1879. Politically Mr. Dean is a Republican.

*Daniel Dunklee*, one of the prominent farmers of Scott Township, was born in the State of New Hampshire, June 22, 1829. His father moved with his family to New York in 1841, and Daniel resided there until 1856, when he came to Iowa. He located in Freemont Township, Benton County, remaining there until 1878, when he came to Floyd County, and purchased eighty acres of land on section 33, Scott Township, where he is at present residing. His farm is under excellent improvement and well stocked. He was married in 1866, to Elizabeth Stackhouse, who was born in Illinois, April 6, 1840. Their union has been blessed with two children—Ida Marian, born Dec. 11, 1866, and Almira,

April 26, 1872. Mr. Duncklee is a member of the Christian church and in politics he is a Republican.

*E. W. Ellis* is a native of Wales, born Jan. 23, 1839. He emigrated to America in 1856, landed at New York City, and from there went to Utica, where he spent two years. In 1867 he moved to Dubuque County, Ia., thence in September, 1873, to Sac County, where he resided four and one-half years, and in 1877 came to Floyd County. He owns a finely improved farm of 105 acres on section 31, Scott Township, and is one of the prominent farmers and stock-growers of the county. He married Charlotte Jeffry, who was born on the Isle of Man, March 22, 1843. In May, 1861, Mr. Ellis enlisted in the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served three years, participating in many a hard-fought battle. He served in the Army of the Potomac, under Generals McClellan and Pope, and was wounded Aug. 30, 1862, at the second battle of Bull Run. He was honorably discharged with his comrades at Madison, Wis., July 16, 1864. In politics he is a strong Republican.

*Andrew J. Esser* was born in Prussia, Feb. 23, 1812, and emigrated with his parents to America in 1851. They landed at New York, and from there went at once to Dodge County, Wis., where Andrew lived seven years, then went to Missouri, and worked as a farm laborer two years. In August, 1863, he enlisted in Company E, Twelfth Missouri Volunteer Infantry, and served thirteen months. He participated in the battles of Jackson, Miss., Black River, Canton; was in the siege of Vicksburg forty-seven days, and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. Upon leaving the service he returned to Wisconsin, remained six months, thence to Kendall County, Ill. He followed farming there four years, and May, 1868, came to Rockford, Ia. He at once engaged in farming, and in 1874 purchased 200 acres of land on section 31, Scott Township, and in 1878, 160 on section 32, making a splendid farm of 360 acres of finely cultivated land. He was married in 1871 to Martha De Wolf, who was born in Wisconsin in October, 1853. They have three children—Anna, born July 29, 1872; Albert, May 26, 1876, and Leonard, July 22, 1878. In his political views, Mr. Esser is a Republican; he has held many of the township offices, and is the present School Director and Road Supervisor.

*William Galbraith*, one of the prominent farmers of Scott Township, is a native of Scotland, born in the town of Slates, in 1804. He emigrated to America in 1850, landed at New York, and from there went direct to Marquette County, Wis., where he engaged

in farming eleven years, and in 1861 disposed of his land and came to Floyd County, Ia. He settled on sections 10 and 11, Scott Township, where he owns a valuable farm of 320 acres, under excellent improvement and finely stocked. He has twice married; his first wife, Jeannette Stephenson, was a native of Scotland, where she died in 1842, leaving two children — Jeannette, born April 30, 1838, and David, March 11, 1841. The second marriage occurred Jan. 25, 1849, to Agnes Thomson, likewise of Scottish birth, born in Ayreshire in 1829. The fruit of this union is ten children, viz.: William, born Oct. 11, 1850; James, Aug. 26, 1854; John, March 1, 1856; Andrew, Aug. 22, 1858; Robert, Feb. 21, 1860; Samuel and Alexander (twins), March 21, 1863; Rachel and Hugh (twins), July 7, 1864, and Agnes, April 2, 1869. The family are members of the Presbyterian church, and in politics Mr. Galbraith gives the Republican party his support.

*Thomas Garber*, one of the representative citizens of Scott Township, was born in Shelby County, O., Dec. 6, 1835. He came from Ohio to Clayton County, Ia., in 1854, and lived there until March 18, 1865, when he settled in Floyd County, purchasing land in Union Township. Three years later he moved to Scott Township, having previously bought eighty acres of land on section 12, and has since resided there. He has made farming his life business, and is now one of the practical and successful farmers of Floyd County. He is a strong supporter of the Republicans, and has been elected to the office of Constable, and is the present Road Supervisor. He was united in marriage with Josephine McCrum, on March 18, 1862. She was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., Dec. 22, 1844. Four children have blessed this union, viz.: Seldon, born April 18, 1865; Edmund, Jan. 25, 1867; Dora, Feb. 24, 1870, and Alice, July 7, 1878. Mr. Garber is a member of the German Baptist church.

*J. W. Jeffrey* was born on the Isle of Man, May 19, 1837, and emigrated to America when in his boyhood; he landed at New York and went at once to Jamestown, Wis., where he resided until Aug. 12, 1862, and on that day he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Nash and Colonel Montgomery, and was mustered out with his comrades when the war closed at Washington, D. C., and discharged at Madison County. He was with the Army of the Cumberland, and engaged in many a hard-fought battle. He was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and participated in the battles of Kennesaw Mt.,

Atlanta, Dallas, Ga., Decatur, Ga., was in front of Atlanta under fire for about six months, and was also present during the siege and battle of Savannah, Ga. After the capture of that city, he with his regiment shipped on board a steamer and went to South Carolina, and took the town of Columbia, reducing it to ashes. This regiment was detailed as provost guard and sent to North Carolina, thence to Richmond, Va., and from there to Washington, and was in the grand review. He returned to Wisconsin, and in the spring of 1866 crossed the plains to Montana, and resided near Helena City two and one-half years. He came to Rockford, Ia., in the fall of 1869, and bought 120 acres of fine farming land on section 31, Scott Township, and has resided here since. He was married Dec. 27, 1869, to Rosa S. Collogan, who was born in Wisconsin, and died July 14, 1880, leaving five children—James N., Mary E., Abbie B., George and Frank L. Mr. Jeffrey was again married on April 16, 1882, to Aurelia Lowrenz, who was born in Freeport, Ill., April 26, 1852, and came to Rockford, Iowa, in 1876. In politics Mr. Jeffrey is a strong Republican.

*Hiram Losee.* Prominent among the pioneers and representative citizens of Floyd County stands the subject of this sketch. A native of Jefferson County, N. Y., he was born March 3, 1834, and resided there until 21 years of age, when he came to Marble Rock, Ia., at that time called Beelar's Grove. Settlers were few in that region and Mr. Losee was among the first. He opened a farm on section 30, Union Township, which he cultivated and afterward rented until 1870, when he sold it and moved to Scott Township. He is one of the largest land-owners in the county, his possessions amounting to 1,233 acres of fine farming land. The farm upon which he resides is located on sections 12 and 13, and consists of 700 acres, well improved and thoroughly stocked. He has a herd of 208 head of stock. He has been elected to the offices of Township Clerk, Treasurer, Justice of the Peace and County Treasurer, serving in each instance with credit to himself and the entire satisfaction of his constituents. On Sept. 8, 1859, he was united in marriage with Phoebe Smith, a native of Ohio. They have eight children—John K., born Feb. 18, 1861; Charles D., June 16, 1863; A. Sheridan, Aug. 19, 1865; Frederick R., Dec. 25, 1868; James B., May 26, 1870; Amelia J., Feb. 11, 1874; Sarah M., Apr. 2, 1877, and Florence M., Apr. 18, 1882. Mr. Losee is neutral in his political views. His mother is spending her declining years with him, and is seventy-five years of age.

*E. D. Montrose* was born in Ulster County, N. Y., and from the time he was four years of age until he was twenty he lived on the banks of the Genesee River, Livingston County. In 1836 he emigrated to St. Joseph County, Mich., thence to Dane County, Wis., in 1848. In 1865 he came to Floyd County, Ia., and in 1866 bought 250 acres of fine land on section 35, Scott Township, where he has resided since, one of the most honored and respected citizens of this county. He was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace in 1867, holding that position ten years. In 1868 he was elected County Superintendent, and has held at various times nearly all of the township offices, serving with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. On Dec. 19, 1839, he was united in marriage with Harriet L. Star, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y., Oct. 16, 1817. Their union has been blessed with seven children, viz.: Henry W., born Dec. 27, 1840, enlisted in Company B, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, on July 24, 1861, and served four years, participating in all the battles of this regiment except one; he was wounded at Corinth, Miss., and at Fort Donelson; he was with Sherman on his march to the sea and with Grant at Belmont; he was discharged with his comrades after much brave and daring fighting at Louisville, Ky.; Catharine, born Aug. 14, 1843, married W. H. Porter; Emily, Oct. 27, 1845, is the wife of T. E. Teape; Marion, Dec. 22, 1847, married Austin Russell; Addie, Jan. 24, 1849; Lucy, May 8, 1856, married Frederick Morrill, and Sarah, Mar. 28, 1861. In his political views Mr. Montrose is a strong Republican.

*I. W. Nicholson* was born in Philadelphia, Penn., June 19, 1847, where he lived till five years of age, then went with his parents to Pittsburg, Penn., where they lived three years; from there came to Delaware County, Ia., in 1855. He worked on a farm with his father, in Delaware County, until 1871. Jan. 1, 1871, he married Sarah C. Stones, born in La Porte, Ind., March 5, 1850. They have four children—Elsie M., born May 13, 1875; Robert G., Nov. 30, 1876; Frank H., Dec. 18, 1878, and Nora G., Jan. 27, 1881. Mr. Nicholson is a Democrat in his political views. He owns 160 acres of good land on section 17, Scott Township, Floyd County.

*Cyrus H. Oaks* was born in the State of Maine, Jan. 21, 1835, and emigrated from there to Illinois when twelve years of age. His parents settled on a farm in Boone County, where he was reared and educated, remaining until 1871, and in that year he came to Floyd County, Iowa. He located on section 8, Scott Township,

where he owns 260 acres of finely cultivated land, and ranks with the prominent and successful farmers of the county. He has held the office of Township Clerk since 1874, and that of Justice of the Peace four years. He was elected County Supervisor in January, 1876, and still retains the position. As an officer he is capable and efficient, and discharges his duties with credit to himself and the satisfaction of his constituents. Politically he is a pronounced Republican. On Jan. 30, 1861, he was united in marriage with Alida A. Vorce, a native of Henderson, N. Y., born Aug. 26, 1835. The fruit of this union is two children—Albert J., born Nov. 13, 1861, and Earle, Aug. 16, 1885.

*J. B. Schermerhorn* was born in Delaware County, N. Y., July 1, 1840, and came to Galva, Henry County, Ill., in 1858, where he lived one year, and then came to Iowa, going to Delaware County; remained there till the spring of 1869, and then came to Floyd County, settling on section 23, Scott Township. He has 160 acres of fine land, which he has under good cultivation. Politically he is a Democrat. He has held the office of Township Treasurer for eight years, and is the present incumbent; he was elected Justice of the Peace in 1876, and still holds that office; he has served on the Board of Township Trustees for several terms. He was married to Rebecca M. Bowman, July 23, 1861. She was born near Dayton, Ohio, April 20, 1845. They have six children—Frank, born April 9, 1862; Eugene J., March 24, 1865; Sarah, July 11, 1872; John T., Feb. 22, 1875; Wayne H., Sept. 22, 1877; Susannah, May 19, 1879.

*Isaac Sharp*, was born near Rochester, N. Y., Nov. 19, 1830, and when he was three years old his father emigrated to Chautauqua County, that State, where he remained until thirteen years of age. His father then removed to Kane County, Ill., and died there in 1830. Isaac Sharp came to Iowa, Sept. 17, 1854, resided in Benton County one year, then came to Floyd County, purchasing 160 acres of land on section 2, Scott Township, and in 1873, he added 160 acres to that purchase, and now owns 320 acres of as fine land as there is in the State of Iowa. He was married to Agnes Cornelie in La Salle County, Ill., on July 19, 1853. She was born in Ulster County, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1836. They have nine children, viz.: Hattie, George, Calvin, Emma, Fred, Nellie, Charles, Lulu and Willie. Mr. Sharp votes the Republican ticket, and has held the offices of Township Trustee, School Director and

Assessor, serving acceptably in each instance. He ranks with the prominent and influential farmers and stock-growers of Floyd County.

*Purson Shultz* was born in Columbia County, Penn., in October, 1826. He moved to Lee County, Ill., in 1856, where he resided till 1874, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., where he has 229 acres of good, well-improved land. He was married in Pennsylvania in 1851, to Hannah Temple, a native of that State, born in 1827. They have five children — H. R., Philip, George, Jane and Elmeda. He raises stock and all kinds of grain. Politically he is a Republican.

*Charles D. Smith* was born in Erie County, O., Nov. 12, 1853, and emigrated with his father to Floyd County, Ia., in June, 1856. They settled on section 6, Union Township, and Charles D. remained at home assisting on the farm and attending school until 1879, when he purchased eighty acres of rich land on section 4, Scott Township, and moved upon it. He built a house, which was completely demolished by a storm that visited this region June 1, 1879, and made a complete wreck of all his improvements. With unfaltering energy and determination he went to work to rebuild his fallen home, and to-day he ranks with the prominent and influential farmers of Scott Township. He was married Jan. 29, 1879, to Emma J. Smith, a native of New York, born Dec. 23, 1859. Two children have blessed this union — Nellie, born Feb. 16, 1880, died March 10, of that year, and Cassie, born June 28, 1881. Mrs. Smith came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Smith, from New York in 1878, and met and married her present husband. Her parents reside near Marble Rock, Ia. In politics the subject of this memoir is a Republican.

*David Stoner* was born in Shelby County, Ohio, March 22, 1825, and lived there until he was twenty-five years old, when he removed to La Porte County, Ind., and lived four years; then went to Delaware County, Ia., and followed farming till 1874, when he came to Floyd County, settling on section 15, Scott Township, where he has 160 acres of fine, well-improved land. He was married in Wayne County, Ind., in 1847, to Sarah Bowman, a native of Dauphin County, Penn., born in 1828. From this union there are five children — Sarah (now Mrs. Thomas Nicholson), born in 1851; Emeline (now Mrs. Allen Kates), born in Indiana in 1853; Genlanstone, born in Iowa in 1855; Augusta,

born in Delaware County, Ia., in 1863 ; and Ada Melvina, born in 1868. Mr. Stoner is neutral in his political views.

*John R. Waller* was born in Rockford, Ill., Oct. 28, 1841. He moved to Charles City, Ia., in 1855, where he lived till 1864, when he went to Montana Territory and engaged in mining, merchandising and handling live-stock till 1868, when he returned to Charles City. He then speculated in live-stock, land, etc. In 1871 he moved on his farm on section 23, Scott Township, where he still resides. He has been raising trotting and thoroughbred horses, and is now handling and shipping horses, mules, cattle and all kinds of grain to Northern Dakota. He was married Jan. 9, 1870, to Mary E. Stearns, who was born in Pittsfield, Mass., July 13, 1843. They have five children — Edwin S., born Dec. 20 1873 ; Richard R., Aug. 16, 1875 ; Wayne F., May 16, 1878 ; Oliver Randolph, Aug. 2, 1880 ; Helene B., Oct. 16, 1881. Mrs. Waller is a member of the Congregational church. Mr. Waller is a member of the Red Mountain Lodge of Freemasons in Montana. Politically he is a Republican. He graduated from Iowa College, and was probably the first to graduate from Floyd County. He owns 900 acres of land.





## ST. CHARLES TOWNSHIP.

### THE TERRITORY.

St. Charles was first set off as a township Sept. 4, 1854, by John M. Hunt, County Judge. It was then one of the four composing the county, and comprised congressional townships 94 and 95 north, in ranges 16 and 17. Since that time the following alterations have been made: March 5, 1855, sections 25 and 36, and the south half of sections 26 and 35, of township 96, 16, and a strip two miles wide from the south side of township 96, 15, were added from Floyd, by David Wiltse, Acting Judge. July 21, 1855, the west half of township 94, 16, and sections 29 to 32, inclusive of township 95, 16, were transferred to Union Township by Judge Ball. March 6, 1856, sections 25 to 36 inclusive (except 31) were transferred from St. Charles Township to Niles, by S. B. Starr, Acting Judge. March 25, 1856, the north half of section 26, and all of section 24 of township 96, 16, were transferred from Floyd to St. Charles Township, by Judge Collins. Also, by the same, on the same day, sections 29 to 32 inclusive, of township 95, 16, were transferred from Union to St. Charles. March 2, 1857, congressional township 94 north, in range 15 west, and the east half of township 94, 16, and sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36, in township 95, 15, were detached from St. Charles and made into the township of Riverton. Dec. 31, 1858, by S. B. Starr, Acting Judge, sections 23 and 33, in township 95, 15, were transferred from St. Charles to Riverton Township. The same were set back to St. Charles Township by Judge Ripley, Jan. 3, 1859. Jan. 11 following, by same, the south half of section 31, township 96, 15, and the north half of sections 1 to 5 inclusive, of township 95, 15, were transferred from St. Charles to Niles, and the south half of the north half of section 31, township 96, 15, was transferred from Niles to St. Charles.

At various times since the organization of the township attempts have been made to sub-divide it, and to set it off independently from Charles City. Some are in favor of independence in school matters only, and some in other respects. The first election

for township officers was held in April, 1855, which resulted as follows: Trustees, John Blunt; John Kellogg; R. W. Humphrey; Clerk, Milo Gilbert; Justices of the Peace, Joshua Jackson and Alanson Lambert; Assessor, Sanford Harwood. In 1882 the Amendment vote was 365 for, and 458 against.

## FIRST SETTLERS, ETC.

Ambrose W. Story was the first settler within the bounds of St. Charles Township, also in the county. He located on section 20, about three miles south of Charles City, in 1850, and did the first breaking in the county. Joseph Kelly, at the point where Charles City now stands, in 1851 was the second in the township and county. For further particulars see chapters I and XVII, where also nearly all the "first events" and things in this township are given. After reading over the sacred list of names in those chapters, we should pause to study the energetic character of those pioneers who through so great self-sacrifice have made happy homes for the present generation. As about all the religious organizations of this township have their services in Charles City, the reader is referred to Chapter XVII for an account of the churches. St. Charles Township is not a whit behind any of the others in benevolence. For example, during the year 1866 alone it contributed in the aggregate the sum of \$25,610 for benevolent and other public enterprises.

## EDUCATIONAL.

Below is a tabular view of the condition of all the schools in this township during the spring term of 1882:

NO. OF DISTRICT.	NO. PUPILS ENROLLED	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	TEACHER.
1.....	27	23.7	Fannie Humphrey.
2.....	19	12	Mary Korinkee.
3.....	23	18.3	Emma E. Lash.
4.....	19	14.5	Anna Rider.
5.....	25	19.7	Lillie B. Lloyd.
6.....	25	19	Hattie Hutchinson.
7.....	10	9.5	Laura Warn.
8.....	23	18.7	R. D. Capron.
9.....	10	7.7	Ella F. Salmon.
10.....	20	15	Effie A. Trenholm.
11.....	30	23	Marian L. Davidson.
12.....	20	15	Mary Stocks.
13.....	15	12.5	Adda Gray.

The remainder of the history of St. Charles Township is essentially contained in the history of Charles City, Chapter XVII.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Josiah Billings*, born in Lancaster, Worcester County, Mass., Aug. 11, 1820, is a son of Josiah Billings, a native of Lunenburg, Mass. He was educated in Groton Academy, Mass. His father was a tanner, and he worked at the same trade thirty years. He went to Maine in 1845, and in 1869 came to this county. He owns 320 acres, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising; resides on section 10, St. Charles Township. He was married to Ellen Monroe. They had one child—Edward. In 1862 Mrs. Billings died, and in 1866 he married Marsha Tibbitts.

*Ezekiah Blunt*, farmer, section 31, was born in Green County, Wis., Oct. 14, 1843. His parents were John and Maria (Wells) Blunt, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Wisconsin. His father was for many years a farmer in Wisconsin. In the spring of 1852 he removed with his wife and seven children to Floyd County, and located in St. Charles Township. Here he resided till his death, April 26, 1880, respected by all who knew him. Ezekiah, our subject, received only a common-school education. He attended the first school taught in Charles City; the teacher was Miss Lydia Palmer. Dec. 31, 1863, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Macauley, of Pennsylvania. They have six children—Mary C., Charles R., Ezekiah, Jr., Ernest E., Walter C. and Barney. Mr. Blunt is the owner of 293 acres of farming land in Floyd County, most of it under cultivation. Politically he is a Democrat.

*C. H. Clark*, farmer, section 19, was born in Gallia County, O., June 20, 1833, and was the son of Samuel and Mary A. (Roberts) Clark. His father was born in Giles County, Va., in 1799; his mother in the same county in 1803. After their marriage they removed to Gallia County, O., where they lived till 1852, at which time they moved to Chickasaw County, Ia. Here they located a farm and resided two years, when they removed to Pleasant Grove Township, Floyd County. Here they resided until their death, that of the father occurring in 1861, and that of the mother in 1868. The subject of this sketch received a limited education in the common schools, residing with his father on his farm. At the time the family came to Floyd County the only families residing in Charles City were the Blunts and the Kellys. Mr. Clark entered a farm in Pleasant Grove Township. Sept. 13, 1857, he was

married to Nancy DeWitt, of Gallia County, O., whom he had known in early youth in that State. In the spring of 1882 he purchased his present farm in St. Charles Township. Mr. Clark has been a Democrat all his life.

*A. W. Cook*, farmer and fine-stock raiser, section 20, was born in Boston, Mass., Nov. 11, 1811, son of Jesse and Lucretia (Parker) Cook, who were natives of Vermont. His father died while on a voyage to Canton, China, in 1817, his mother soon after, leaving him to care for himself. He resided in Boston, Mass., for a number of years with his uncle, Cephas Parker, after which he went to Rutland, Vt.; and there resided some six years; then went to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he remained until nineteen years of age, at which time he went to New Orleans, and from there to Alabama, residing there some three years; afterward went to Lincoln County, Ky., where he was married to Martha S. Owsley, who was born in Kentucky. They have been blessed with four children, viz.: William H., Jessie, Mollie O., now Mrs. G. W. Bennett, and Dora D. He engaged in farming and dealing in stock in Kentucky for a number of years, after which he moved to Sangamon County, Ill., and engaged in the stock business and farming until 1869; he then sold out and moved to Floyd County, Iowa, where he purchased a beautiful stock farm on Cedar Creek, and has now one of the finest stock and brood farms in Northern Iowa. He was the first to introduce into the State of Iowa the Norman Percheron stock in 1870, and in 1874 he made a trip to France, and imported some of the finest ever brought to America, and has continued each year to renew the stock. In 1882 he imported twenty head, sixteen stallions and four mares, all thorough bred, and now has some seventy-five on his farm, and also has forty head of fine thoroughbred short-horn cattle, which he carefully breeds, and is ready to supply at any time the same to parties wishing good stock. He is the owner of 600 acres of well-improved land where he resides. Politically he is a Democrat.

*Klaus H. Cook* (deceased) was born in Hesse, Germany, Nov. 8, 1818. His parents were Gratt and Annetta (Crumga) Cook, natives of Hesse, where they had a farm. He was married March 31, 1854, to Gesina Freseman, a native of Hesse. She was born Sept. 27, 1826. They have nine children—Garrett, Herbert, Theda, (now Mrs. Theodore Bagman), John W., Nettie M. (now Mrs. Abel Veator), Minnie N. (now Mrs. Cramer), Leah (now Mrs. Chris. Bagman), Lena M. and Eliza K. In 1869 the family

emigrated to America, and located in Floyd County. Mr. Cook purchased 320 acres on section 31, St. Charles Township, south of Charles City. Mr. Cook died March 30, 1877, and Mrs Cook now resides on the homestead with her sons Garrett and John, and her daughters Lena and Eliza.

*H. J. Cramer*, farmer, section 25, was born in Hanover, Germany, Aug. 15, 1838, and was the son of Remmer and Lena (Cramer) Cramer, natives of Hanover. He came with his parents to America in 1852, and resided with them at Freeport until 1861 when he came to Floyd County. He was married in 1867 to Loretta B. Fish, a native of Maine, and daughter of N. B. and Nancy Fish. They have one child—Maud. He owns a fine farm of 210 acres, situated two miles south of Charles City. Politically he is a Democrat.

*John R. Cramer*, farmer, section 31, south of Charles City, was born in Hanover, Germany, Aug. 31, 1843. He was the son of Remmer and Lena (Cramer) Cramer, natives of Hanover. They emigrated to America in 1852 with eleven children, seven of whom are living—Hiram J., Remmer F., George W., John R., Schwatuga (now Mrs. Loop), Lena (now Mrs. August Kuhlenneyer), and Emma (now Mrs. Henry Gates). Mr. Cramer first located at Freeport, Ill., and engaged in farming until 1861 when he removed to Floyd County. He now resides with John R., our subject. The latter received his education in the schools of Freeport, Ill., and was married March 1, 1877, to Minnie Koch, a native of Hanover, Germany, and a daughter of K. H. and Gesinega (Freesman) Koch. She came to America in 1869. They have two children—Henrietta Lena and Herman Remmer. Mr. Cramer owns a fine farm on section 31, which contains 350 acres of land under good cultivation. He owns also 20 acres of timber in Riverton Township. Mr. Cramer is a Democrat.

*Calvin Danforth*, farmer, section 12, was born in Caledonia County, Vt., April 9, 1816. His parents were John and Mary (Sinclair) Danforth, natives of New Hampshire. They moved to Vermont when the country was new, and located on a farm. Mrs. Danforth died soon, when Calvin was one year old, and Mr. Danforth married again. He lived to the age of eighty-five years on his farm in Vermont. Calvin, our subject, lived on his father's farm till he was twenty-eight years old, passing his early years in the common schools of Vermont. In 1844 he went to Franklin County, N. Y., and married Sarah A. Waterbury, a native of St.

Lawrence County, N. Y. He lived near the town of Covington three years, and then moved to Sank County, Wis. Here he remained engaged in farming, for twenty years. Thence he removed to Beaver Dam. After a few months he removed to Sparta, Wis., and thence, in a short time, to Elkhart, Ind. Here he was engaged in milling for a time, and then he engaged with a wagon manufacturer. In this business he came to Floyd County in 1869. He owns 2,000 acres of farming land, most of which is rented and in cultivation. Mr. Danforth has three children—James Albert, Hobart W. and Frederick C. Hobart W. and Frederick C. reside in Floyd County. Mr. Danforth and wife are members of the Baptist church at Charles City. He is politically a Republican.

*Ira Dodge*, farmer, section 35, north of Charles City, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., May 1, 1799. His parents were Solomon and Parkas (Burlingame) Dodge, the former a native of Massachusetts, and the latter of Vermont. They located in Chenango County in 1790, and remained there till their death. Ira, our subject, passed his early years in the common schools, and was married in 1822, to Almira Betts, native of Broome County, N. Y. They have had a family of six children, four now living—William B., Dwight, Eliza (now Mrs. Samuel Lyon), and Harriet (now Mrs. Dues). The three dead are—Charlotte, Luellen, and Mary. In 1839 Mr. Dodge removed to Pennsylvania, where his wife died, in 1848. He was again married in 1851, to Margaret English. They have one daughter—Iantha (now Mrs. F. E. Pierson). They removed to Floyd County in the fall of 1852, locating near Charles City. Here he engaged in farming for many years, but is now retired, living on the homestead with his daughter. When Mr. Dodge came here, the only two families in Charles City were the Blunts and Kellys. Politically he is a Republican.

*William H. Harvey*, born in Chatham, Canada, Jan. 25, 1827, is a son of William Harvey, a native of Pittsburg, Pa. His mother died when he was eleven years old. He received a limited education in the subscription schools. In 1838 his father moved to Winnebago County, Ill. In 1855 he came to Chickasaw County, Ia., and in 1857 came to this county, and settled in the wilderness, but now he has his farm of 241 acres well improved. He returned to Illinois the first fall after coming here and spent the winter; came back the following April with a horse; the team

stuck in a slough; he put the children on the horse and gave a man \$1.50 to pull the wagon out with oxen. His wife walked from Chickasaw County. One night a bear came near the house and scared the horses; one horse ran around the shanty or wigwam in which they were camping before their house was built and tore it down on the family. He was married June 7, 1852, to M. Matilda Waller. Of their six children, five are living—Harriet, William, Ella, Jackson and Frank. He resides on section 15, St. Charles Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising.

*Maxwell Ireland*, farmer, section 11, was born in Preble County, Ohio, June 21, 1818. He was the son of James and Polly (Maxwell) Ireland, natives of Kentucky. They removed to Preble County, O., in an early day. In 1831 the family removed to Michigan, where Mr. Ireland died the following fall. Mrs. Ireland then removed to St. Joseph County, Ind., and from there, after some years, to La Porte County, where she died, in the fall of 1857. Maxwell Ireland received his education in the common schools, and was married in 1839, in St. Joseph County, to Sarah A. Petit. After a number of years they removed to La Porte County, and in September, 1857, they again removed to Floyd County, Ia., locating on the present farm. They have three children—Rebecca J., Sylvester C. and Sylvanus P. Mrs. Ireland died March 11, 1882. Mr. Ireland has owned considerable land in Floyd County, but has divided all but 120 acres among his children. Politically Mr. Ireland is a Republican.

*John Jordan* was born in Ireland in 1822. He came to America in 1850, stopping in New York, where he remained seven years; thence to Wisconsin where he lived ten years; then came to Iowa and settled on section 22, St. Charles Township, where he has 100 acres of good land. He was married in 1846 to Isabella Chambers, a native of Ireland. They had one child—Mary, now Mrs. Charles Smith. Mrs. Jordan died in 1874, and in 1878 Mr. Jordan married Rosilla Strong. They have one child—Sarah, born Jan. 11, 1881. Mr. Jordan is a Presbyterian in his religious views, and politically is a Republican.

*William Jung*, farmer, section 12, was born in Hesse, Germany, Sept. 5, 1851. His parents were John and Katrina (Brandan) Jung, who emigrated to America in 1869, and located in Cook County, Ill., where they still reside. William was married in 1876 to Mrs. Katherine (Blankenbach) Sippel, in Chicago. She had by her first marriage three children—Conrad, Henry and Mar-

tha. Mr. and Mrs. Jung have three children—William, Emily and Belan. In the spring of 1882 he rented his farm in Cook County and came to Floyd County. He has a fine farm of eighty acres of land in St. Charles Township. Mr. Jung is a consistent member of the German Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican.

*John Kellogg* (deceased), farmer, section 1, north of Charles City, was born March 28, 1808, in Vermont. He was the son of Jonathan and Hannah (Upham) Kellogg, both of whom were born in Vermont. They moved to Ohio, where the father died. The mother removed with our subject to Floyd County in 1854, he having entered his land the year previous. She died in Floyd County. He was married in Ohio, in 1832, to Rachel Shelley, a native of Connecticut. They had a family of nine children, eight of whom are now living—Eliza (now Mrs. John Brown), William, Matilda (now Mrs. William E. Holbrook), Lyman, Mary (now Mrs. James McKinney), Harvey S., Edwin, Jennie (now Mrs. Harvey Webster), and Emily (deceased). John Kellogg died April 20, 1881. His wife still resides on the home farm with her son Edwin. The latter was married June 2, 1877, to Abbie S. Culver, a native of Iowa. They have two children—Guy H. and Daisy. Politically Mr. Kellogg is a Republican.

*Isaac S. Large*, nurseryman, was born in Jefferson County, Ind., Nov. 9, 1830. His parents were Ebenezer and Rachel (Nichols) Large, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Virginia. Mrs. Large died in 1851. Mr. Large came to Floyd County in the fall of 1856, and remained the winter. Not liking the cold he went to Missouri, where he died the following fall. Isaac S. came to Floyd County, Oct. 10, 1852, and settled near Charles City, when it contained but two log houses, those of Blunt and Kelly. After a short time he removed to the northern part of the county. In 1866 he was married to Hannah Worseldine, an English woman. She was born in 1844, and was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Green) Worseldine. They have one son—John E. He afterward sold his farm and removed to Charles City, where he has been in the nursery business ever since. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, Eighteenth Illinois, and was soon transferred to the Twenty-first Iowa. He served three years, most of the time as file major, to which position he was promoted soon after enlistment. He was in the battles of Champion Hills, siege of Vicksburg, and in the Mobile campaign. Politically Mr. Large is a Greenbacker.



*David Lonergan*, farmer, section 31, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, Aug. 28, 1826. His parents were David and Mary (Quirk) Lonergan, natives of the same county. They emigrated to America in 1840, locating in Utica, N. Y. There they resided about a year and a half. Thence they removed to Waukesha County, Wis., and resided there until 1846. Going to Washington County, Wis., Mr. Lonergan died, and Mrs. Lonergan removed to Fond du Lac County, Wis. David, our subject, was married in 1858 to Sarah Jane Rich. In 1864 they removed to Floyd County, Ia., where they have since resided, engaged in farming. He owns 220 acres of land, under high cultivation. They have eight children—John M., Margaret A., Mary, Harriet, Martha, Edwin, Nellie and David A. Mr. Lonergan is politically a Greenbacker, and religiously is a member of the Catholic church.

*James N. Makepeace*, born in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Nov. 22, 1830, is a son of Elijah Makepeace (deceased), who moved to Ohio, near Cleveland, in 1834, and to Winnebago County, Ill., in 1841. James N. came to Mitchell County, Ia., in June, 1857, and the following August to this county. He helped kill three bear and one elk the first winter he was here. He resides on section 8, St. Charles Township, and owns 360 acres. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising, besides paying attention to dairying and an apiary. He owns 110 cattle, fifty-five hogs and nine horses. He was married in 1853 to Carcenia A. Lee, born in La Porte, Ind., Jan. 24, 1833. Her father, James B. Lee, built the first house in La Porte, Ind. He moved to Rockford Ill., in 1835, when there were only three houses there. He still resides in Rockford at the age of seventy-nine years; is of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Makepeace have six children—Niles H., Alice C., Minnie V., Estella C., Arthur B. and Fred E.

*John Martzon* was born in Germany, on Dec. 20, 1820. He was a son of Michael and Mary Catharine Martzon, both natives of Germany. Mr. John Martzon came to America when he was about thirty-five years of age, locating in Dubuque, Ia., where he remained three years engaged in teaming principally. In 1856 he became a citizen of Floyd County. He rented land in Union Township the first three years. At the end of this time he bought eighty acres where he still resides, on section 31, St. Charles Township. To his first purchase he added five eighty-acre pieces. Mr. Martzon was married in Floyd County in 1856, to Miss Barbara Swick, a native of Germany. They have six children—Mary

(married Charles Sylvester, and resides in Charles City), John, Anna, George, Lewis and Mike. The five younger children are all at home. The father and mother and all the children are members of the Catholic church.

*James McKinney*, section 30, was born Aug. 4, 1844, in Washington County, N. Y. His parents were John and Florida (Wells) McKinney, natives of Ireland. They emigrated to America in 1830, and now reside in Salem County, N. Y. The subject of this memoir passed his early life in the common schools of New York, and he also learned to be a painter and machinist. He was married April 7, 1868, to Florence Odbert. They have two children—Augusta F. and Burton J. Mrs. McKinney died Aug. 28, 1871, and soon afterward Mr. McKinney came to Charles City. He was married to Mary Kellogg, May 15, 1874, whose acquaintance he formed here. They have had four children—Harvey J., Arthur H., Evelyn J. and Nellie R. Mr. McKinney is a farmer by occupation, but is also a painter, carpenter and machinist. He is a highly respected man.

*George Mitchell*, Maple Grove Creamery and Stock Farm, section 24, south of Charles City, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., Nov. 3, 1823. His parents were David and Sarah (Dibble) Mitchell, the former a native of Nashua County, Conn., and the latter of Washington County, Mass. They removed to Delaware County in an early day, and resided there on a farm until their death. Of their family of nine children, the youngest was 50 years of age before any of them died. The father died in 1840, and the mother at the age of 90, in 1876. George, our subject, attended the common schools and an academy in Delaware County, N. Y., and was married in Connecticut, in 1839, to Julia Hough. By this marriage there were two children—David H. and Emily. In 1853 he removed to Calhoun County, Mich., where his wife died, in 1857. He was again married, to Esther M. Cook, a native of Michigan. They resided there on a farm until 1865, when they removed to Floyd County. Mr. Mitchell has a large farm, well improved and stocked, of 540 acres. In connection with his farm is the Maple Grove Creamery, in which he makes as fine butter as is made in Iowa. He has a hundred cattle, forty of them milch cows, and as many hogs. Mr. Mitchell is one of the most highly respected men in the county, and is in every sense a representative man. He is politically a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are members of the Congregational church.

*John Schrimager*, farmer, section 26, north of Charles City, was born in Scotland, July 4, 1819, and was the son of Alexander and Jane (McRitchie) Schrimager, both natives of Scotland. He emigrated to America in 1836, locating in Ohio. Here he engaged in farming. In 1850 he moved to Rockford, Ill. Here he was married, in 1854, to Amanda F. Cass. In 1855 they removed to Floyd County, Iowa, where they now reside. He owns 243 acres of land, under good cultivation. They have nine children—John, Sherman, Mahlon, Ellen, Alexander, Julia, Jennie, Mary and L. C. Mr. Schrimager is a Republican.

*Edwin M. Smith*, born in Jefferson County, N. Y., Dec. 28, 1832, is a son of Thomas Smith, a native of New Hampshire. In 1844 he came West with his parents to Columbus, Wis., and in 1867 came to this county. He was married in March, 1860, to Elizabeth, daughter of William Rosenkrans. Of their two children, one is living—Irwin G. Mrs. Smith died in 1872, and in July, 1874, he married Mrs. Katie Lewis, *nee* Kelley. He resides on section 23, St. Charles Township, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns 180 acres of fine land.

*Benjamin Timmons*, born in Jasper County, Ind., Aug. 10, 1837, is a son of Thomas Timmons, a native of Ohio. He went with parents to Cedar Rapids, Ia., in 1844; to Dubuque the following spring; to Platteville, Wis., in 1846; back to Indiana in 1848; to Wisconsin again in 1849; from there in a few weeks to near Dubuque; in 1854 to Delaware County, Ia. In 1862 Mr. Timmons came to this county and settled on section 14, St. Charles Township. At that time it was all wild land, but now he has 200 acres, all under a good state of cultivation. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He has a barn 60 x 30 feet, which holds forty tons of hay. He has a nice two-story house, the main part being 11 x 24 with an L 16 x 24. He was married in June, 1859, to Phoebe Hoag. Of their nine children seven are living—Alfred, Edgar, Elnora, Marietta, Angeline, Ezra D. and Hester; Huldah M. and Elizabeth are deceased. The family are members of the United Brethren church.

*G. H. Whitehead*, farmer, section 13, was born in Wayne County, Ind., Nov. 3, 1829. His parents were John and Katherine (Brown) Whitehead, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of Kentucky. They removed to La Porte County, Ind., in 1842, where the father soon after died. After a number of years Mrs.

Whitehead, while visiting her daughters in Delaware County, Iowa, also died. G. H., our subject, was educated in the common schools of La Porte County, Ind., and after his father's death he managed the farm. In 1851 he was married to Ann M. Kellogg, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Harvey and Jerusha (Parks) Kellogg. In the fall of 1854 he removed to Floyd County, where he located in St. Charles Township. He owns a fine farm of 127 acres of land, on the edge of Charles City. Mr. Whitehead has been from the first establishment of the Baptist church of Charles City an earnest supporter thereof. Politically he is a Republican.



## ULSTER TOWNSHIP.

This township was organized in the year 1858, being the south half of township 96 north, of range 17 west, and the north half of township 95 north, of range 17 west. The name Ulster was embodied in the petition to the county judge requesting the township to be organized and to bear the name Ulster, it being the name of a county in New York State, from which many of the first settlers of this township emigrated. It has an area of forty-two square miles, or 26,880 acres, the assessed valuation of which is \$160,000. It has 3 29-100 miles of railroad, whose valuation is \$11,875.

### SETTLEMENT.

Mr. John Ball was the first settler in this township, coming from Lake County, Ind., in December, 1853; he entered a tract of land on section 10, where he still resides. Next to follow Mr. Ball were two brothers by the name of Daniel and Peter Beaver, from Chickasaw County, but formerly from Western Reserve, O. They came in about January, 1854, and Josiah M. Rogers and Wm. M. Crocker, and so on sections 10, 15, 22, and 26, in the spring of 1854, were seen the first log cabins ever constructed within the limits of what is now known as Ulster Township. These gentlemen were the first to leave the endearments of home in other lands, and penetrate into the wilds of what we now know as the beautiful of Flood Creek. The original occupants and owners had just vacated. Vestiges of their camping grounds were plainly visible, and their trails easily followed. The wild deer roamed at will unmolested by the chase of the white man, and the grandeur of nature was untouched by the hand of art. Following closely in the wake of these pioneers, in the autumn of the same year came Wm. Welch, Henry Sprague and Barney Corby, whose welcome as fellow laborers in the work of civilization can perhaps be better imagined than described. In the following year came other additions to the little band, among which may be found the Borders, Welches, Wises, Widow Howland, A. B. Warren, Wm. Mutchler, D. G. Hiscox, M. Owens, and perhaps a few others. In the spring of

1856 N. F., W. L., and O. McEwen, three brothers from "York State," Edward Crowell, the two Hancht Brothers and J. B. Powers, who with A. B. Warren formed a settlement which is now known as Sub-district No. 2 in Northern Ulster. After this the number of new comers increased rapidly, and by the year 1870 the township was considered thoroughly settled. The first settlements were principally on Flood Creek, where the majority of the families still reside, a few having gone further west, attracted by the allurements of a pioneer life.

The first wedding took place in 1855—Henry Welch to Susan Border, Rev. William P. Halbrook performing the ceremony in a log house (on the bank of Flood Creek), that has since crumbled with decay.

The first child born was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Beaver, in the fall of 1854. It died in infancy and is believed to have never been named.

#### RELIGIOUS.

Ulster's religious societies, for a township, have been many and varied, among them the Methodist, United Brethren, Congregational, German Methodist Episcopal, Free Methodist, Catholic and Lutheran. With the exception of the United Brethren these, in 1877, still retained their organization, though not having regular preaching. To-day there are but two, properly speaking,—the German M. E. and the Catholic churches,—having live organizations, though the Lutherans occasionally have services in School-house No. —. The German Methodist is the largest church in the township, having a membership of 146, and a congregation averaging 200. It was organized as a class in the summer of 1868, by Rev. Rudolph Fiegenbaum, of Charles City. In the fall it was organized as a mission, divided from the Charles City Circuit, and connected with Shell Rock Mission, John Schaad being preacher. In September, 1870, it was organized as a circuit of the N. W. Iowa German Conference, Rev. Philip Hummell, pastor. In the second year of his ministration, 1871–1872, the society decided to erect a church edifice at an expense of \$2,200. It was built, finished and dedicated while Mr. Hummell was pastor; the original membership having been only fifty shows determination on the part of the German residents. The ministers who have been appointed to this circuit are as follows: John Shaad, 1869–1870; Philip Hummell, 1870–1873; C. F. Tramm, 1873–1876, and during his administration the membership had reached 120;

Philipp Funk, 1876-1879; Ferdinand Fisher, the present pastor, 1879 to September, 1882, with a present membership of 145. In this circuit, outside of the home society, there are two other well-established ones, one of which meets in the basement of the Rockford M. E. church, the other in the school-house in Union Township, near Greene, preaching every alternate Sunday afternoon. Connected with these — the home and the Union Township societies — are two Sunday-schools, with a total of thirty-six officers and teachers, 120 scholars, and 202 books in the library. The present officers of the Union Township school are. Superintendent, John Oeser; Assistant Superintendent, Charles Herz. The officers of the home school are: Superintendent, H. Kohlsteadt; Assistant Superintendent, C. Lenz; Secretary, A. Koehler; Treasurer, A. Doake; Librarian, A. Kock.

#### THE FIRST RELIGIOUS SERVICES

and the first sermons preached in the township were in the house of John Ball, in the spring of 1854. In our conversation with a well-known pioneer of that neighborhood, he said: "Well do I know with what pertinacity Elder Ball clung to the good old Methodist hour, as he called it, of 11 o'clock for worship, and how we used to walk a distance of two miles or more to meeting in the hot summer time, and while we partook of the spiritual food which he dispensed to us in a sermon of an hour's length, how the natural man longed for that other food which was so ravenously devoured on arriving at home. Rev. Mr. Ingham, a Methodist circuit preacher, who at that time made Waterloo his home, preached occasionally in Mr. Ball's house at about this time.

And they all pass before us in review — the pioneer preachers of the different church organizations who have labored among us, camp-meeting scenes and surroundings, the frequent practical and often eloquent sermons of those times, as though the inspiration of a new country as God had made it gave new energy, power and impulse to the leaders of the advance guards of Christianity.

#### THE FIRST SCHOOL

was taught by M. Owens, in the winter of 1855-'56, in a rude cabin, hurriedly constructed, on section 25. The first schools taught in Floyd County were generally private or subscription schools.

Probably the next school was taught during the following summer in the house built by William Welch for a residence on

the bank of Flood Creek. The teacher was Miss Malinda Palmer, then of St. Charles (Charles City), now a resident of Blue Earth County, Minn.

The formation of the first school-district bears date of April 24, 1856. By action of David Wiltse, School Fund Commissioner of Floyd County, on application of John Ball and others, sections 1 to 12 inclusive, and the north one half of 16, 17, and 18, in township 95 north, of range 17 west, were detached from School District No. 1, of Union Township, and formed into a new district and named No. 3 of Union Township. The organization of this district was effected at a meeting held at the house of Wm. Welch, in said district, May 5, 1856. Wm. Muchler presided; L. G. Hiscox was Secretary. The officers elected were: George Wise, President, L. G. Hiscox, Treasurer. At a subsequent meeting, held on the 21st of July following, a site was chosen forty rods west of the center of northeast of section 9, and at a meeting held Sept. 14, 1857, a tax of \$300 was voted to build a grout house twenty-two feet square thereon. John Ball was the contractor and builder. The house was completed and paid for Nov. 10, 1858, the cost being \$299. It was good work, as the condition of the house to-day testifies.

The register of the first school taught therein contains names of twenty-five pupils, whose ages varied from that of four to twenty-one years, many of whom are now fathers and mothers of grown-up children, and yet residents of the township. Some have cast their lots in distant lands, and some have crossed the dark river to the other shore. The pay for those days was as low as eighty-seven cents per day without board.

The second school district, whose formation bears date of May 19, 1857, was comprised of sections 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and south 1-2 of 19, 20, and 21. This territory was on application of E. Crowell, Sen., and others formed into a district and named No. 3, of Rock Grove Township. A meeting to organize said district was held at the house of A. B. Warren, June 6, 1857. The officers elected were: A. B. Warren, President; Dr. N. T. McEwen, Secretary; O. McEwen, Treasurer. On the 12th of September following, a meeting was held at the same place, a school-house site was chosen on the northeast corner of the southwest of section 32, and a tax of \$200 voted to build a frame house 20 feet square thereon. E. Crowell, Sen., was the contractor and builder, which he completed Dec. 1, 1858. During that winter the



first school was taught, under the instruction of N. T. McEwen, and numbered nineteen pupils. In the winter of 1860 this house was destroyed by fire, through the thoughtlessness of the teacher in depositing ashes that contained live coals too near the straw embankment that surrounded the house.

The secretary's report from the two districts named for the year ending Sept. 15, 1857, show the whole number of children of school age to have been forty-three.

The teachers of last spring term and the number of pupils in attendance will be seen by the appended table :

DISTRICT NUMBER.	ENROLLMENT.	TEACHER.	LGTH. OF SCHOOL IN WEEKS.
1.....	18	Clara J. Teeling.	
2.....	24	Wm. McEwen.	
3.....	28	Jessie Bumps.	
4.....	20	Maggie McElroy.	
5.....	84	John G. Legal.	
6.....	28	A. L. Drake.	
7.....	22	Lida Smith.	
8.....	16	Fannie L. Mix.	

#### A COMPARISON.

In 1857 there were twenty-seven heads of families; there were forty-three children of school age, and not a school-house within the borders of the township in which to properly educate them. Compare with to-day. The township has now upward of 200 heads of families; the children of school age number close to 300; there are eight school-houses, whose aggregate cost is \$3,800. Teachers receive, not the pittance of \$16 per month and board themselves, but the more liberal compensation of \$25 and \$30, and boarded.

On the 13th of March, 1858, the General Assembly of the State passed an act making each civil township in the several counties of the State a school district, and providing that districts then established should become sub-districts. In accordance with the provisions of this act the district township was organized at a meeting held on the 3d day of May, at the house of J. B. Powers. District No. 3, of Union, then became Sub-district No. 1, of district township of Ulster, and District No. 3, of Rock Grove, Sub-district No. 2, and are known to-day by those names. The other sub districts in the township are numbered in the order of their formation.

The first district township officers elected were : Henry Sprague, President; A. B. Warren, Vice-President; N. T. McEwen, Secretary; John Ball, Treasurer. Sub-directors—No. 1, W. Mutchler; No. 2, J. B. Powers.

At the present writing they have eight school-houses, valued at \$3,980, and which have been furnished at an expense of over \$1,200. The present number of children of school age in the township is 290. And so Ulster citizens have a record to show that from the earliest period they have paid much attention to educational matters. From the pioneer era to the present time the school has been the theme of gossip and inquiry. A love of education forms the leading characteristic of the people. It has always been fostered and cherished by them as far as their means would permit.

In March, Colonel David Ripley, County Judge of Floyd County, formed from the north half of township 95, range 17, and the south half of township 96, range 17 west, a civil township, which was christened Ulster, after the then-existing postoffice of that name.

#### THE FIRST ELECTION

was held at the house of James Auchmoody, April 5, 1858. Officers elected: Township Trustees, John Ball, James B. Powers and John Fox; Township Clerk, William L. McEwen; Justice of the Peace, M. F. McEwen and Wm. Mutchler; Constables, A. R. Rhinehart and H. D. Sprague; Road Supervisors, O. McEwen and James J. Quimby.

The poll-book of this election shows the number who participated in it to have been thirty-one, which was then the whole voting population of the township. We append the list as recorded.

A. Wise,  
G. W. Crowell  
James Welch,  
J. B. Powers,  
W. Mutchler,  
Daniel Border,  
M. Warren,  
Henry Welch,  
Nelson Welch,  
M. Owens,  
Henry Sprague,

E. H. Hanchett,  
W. L. McEwen,  
John Ball,  
L. G. Hiscox,  
N. T. McEwen,  
Wm. Welch,  
J. J. Quimby,  
A. B. Warren,  
N. J. Crowell,  
John Hanchett,  
A. R. Rhinehart,

E. Crowell, Sen.,  
John Fox,  
Frank Thomas,  
H. D. Sprague,  
Wm. McEwen,  
O. McEwen,  
George Wise,  
Joel Johnson,  
C. Wise.

By an act of the County Board of Supervisors, January, 1862, the boundaries of Ulster were changed, the alteration consisting in detaching one tier of sections on the north and attaching two tiers on the south, thus making the township six miles east and west

and seven miles north and south. The change was made on the part of the board, it not being petitioned for or even demanded by the citizens of Ulster.

The present township officers are: Trustees, Orlando McEwen, Charles Bartz and Henry Hohlsted; Clerk, M. A. Hirsch; Assessor, John H. Crowell; Constable, August Kock and George Hitz; Justices of the Peace, Edward Crowell and Henry Achembach; Supervisors, J. G. Wiggins, S. N. Crowell, Sureno Whitney, Simon Koener, Jacob Metz, D. Dickman, William Herbrecht-meyer, Mathew S. Kramer and George A. Hellman.

#### RAILROADS.

The northeast corner of the township is crossed by the C., M. & St. Paul, while the extreme southwest corner is crossed by the B., C. R. & Northern Railway.

#### POSTOFFICE.

In 1857 the first postoffice was established in John Ball's house, Mr. John Ball being appointed Postmaster. This was known for a while as the Ripley postoffice, but owing to the name being similar to one in Greene County, Ia., by the name of Rippy, and causing considerable difficulty in the distribution of mail, they changed the name to Ulster, which remained unchanged till 1875, when Mr. Ball resigned his position as Postmaster, and the office was abandoned. Since then there has been no postoffice in the township.

#### ULSTER'S VOLUNTEERS.

Of the citizens who nobly volunteered their lives in the defense of our country, we find inscribed upon the roll of honor the following: L. D. Powers, John Henchett, Edward Crowell, Jr., William Clarence Decker, James M. Crowell, Silas W. Crowell, W. S. Henderson.

These brave boys were never shot in the back; but on every battle-field of any magnitude in the Mississippi Valley, made their presence known and felt, as a history of the Thirty-second, Twenty-seventh and Third Iowa Infantry Volunteers at Pleasant Hill, Fort Donelson, Fort Robinette, etc., testifies. One of the number, W. C. Decker, never returned, but fills an unknown grave, on the bloody battle-field on Pleasant Hill, Mo.

## WATER.

Its principal stream is Flood Creek, whose name is taken from its peculiarities, being at times nearly void of water, and at others, a raging, turbulent river, overflowing its banks. It flows southeasterly in a meandering course, through the center of the township. In the northern part it affords plenty of water, in the central and southern part it is subterranean. There is a small tributary to Flood Creek, called Spring Creek, emptying in on section 4, and has its rise in the northwest corner of the township. Its name originated from the fact of its source being from several small springs.

Three wooden bridges span Flood Creek within the township.

Good water is found wherever it has been sought, by digging wells. There are no springs of any note in the township, unless it be the small ones at the source of Spring Creek as mentioned above.

## THE FIRST DEATH

occurred in August, 1854, Daniel Beaver, Jr., a boy one year of age, son of Daniel Beaver, Sen.

## CEMETERIES.

There are three in the township. In 1854 the first was laid out near School-house No. 1.

In 1860 another was enclosed in the northern part of the township. And in 1875 one near the German church.

## CREAMERY.

The only manufactory in the township is a creamery owned by Mr. O. McEwen & Son, situated on section 32, established in 1881, using the milk of about 500 cows, and employing five hands.

The topography of the township is similar to that of the county and State, being comparatively level, with a few slight elevations along the channel of streams, etc. The soil is of a black, sandy loam of rich quality, partaking some of lime. Several small limestone quarries have been opened, though the material is not first quality for building purposes.

## TIMBER.

With a few exceptions the only natural timber is found along Flood Creek, though artificial groves have been cultivated on nearly every farm, till the township is now considered well wooded.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The German Methodist Camp-Meeting, held in Ulster, July, 1871, was a very interesting event. Great interest was manifested, and many were added to the fold of Christ. There was a full attendance, with as many as nineteen pitched tents, Germans, and even Americans, coming from all the neighboring townships, and even counties.

In February, 1862, L. A. Belcher was found frozen to death in Ulster Township, after having been two weeks buried under the snow.

June 11, 1860, Mrs. Mary Johnson, wife of W. G. Johnson, of Ulster, was instantly killed by lightning while she was standing in the house. A husband and two small children were thus bereft. They had emigrated from Ireland two years previous.

A failure to mention the hard times through which the brave people of Ulster passed, and the sacrifices they made during this period, would be an unpardonable omission. Beginning with the financial crisis of 1857, extending and increasing through the dark days of rebellion and strife—they indeed had days of sadness and strife.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*Henry Achenbach* was born in Germany in 1851, came to America with his brother, Leonard Achenbach, in the year 1852; made their home in Lake County, Ill., for about thirteen years. At the expiration of this time they moved to Floyd County, Ia. Mr. Leonard Achenbach made his first purchase in Ulster Township of 200 acres, lying on sections 16 and 21. In the year 1875 Henry A. purchased eighty acres on section 21, and in 1880 he bought another eighty in same section. He was married in Charles City in 1875 to Sophia Wolf. They have four children—Clara M., Anna B., Louis L. and Henry O. Both Mr. and Mrs. Achenbach are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican. He has held the office of Township Trustee and Road Supervisor two years; is School Director, and is now serving his fourth year as Justice of the Peace.

*John Ball* was born in Goshen, Orange County, N. Y., July 12, 1817. At the age of fourteen Mr. Ball moved with his parents to New Jersey, near Newark. He learned the carpenter's trade with his father, and at the age of sixteen went to Newark to work. In August, 1835, in company with his father, moved to Michigan City, Ind., where he remained one year, when he married Nancy Glover, who was born in Putnam County, Ind., Jan. 4, 1816. After their marriage they moved to Lake County, Ind. Here they remained engaged in farming principally till the year 1853, when they emigrated to Iowa and located in Ulster Township, Floyd County, being the first settlers of the township. Here they still reside, alone as they started, having raised a family of six children, who have grown up, and are now out in the world tasting of its bitter and sweet, as they did forty years ago. In the year 1855 Mr. Ball was elected County Judge, and has many years filled its office of Justice of the Peace. Mr. Ball was elected on the first Board of Supervisors in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Ball are both members of the Free Methodist church. Mr. Ball has held the license of local preacher ever since coming into the State. In the years 1861-'62 under the presiding eldership of John Gould, Mr. Ball traveled as a supply on the Forest City Circuit. Their family, consisting of three sons and three daughters, are all enjoying the religion of the gospel. Mr. Ball has certainly been a marked character and a moving power upon the frontier. During the war, though well up in years, he was determined to enlist and help Uncle Sam do his threshing, but was refused the job on account of his age. In spite of this rebuff he joined the Quartermaster's Department and remained for a time, when failing health caused him to return. Besides being a man of daring spirit, he is one of public spirit, and encourages every enterprise tending to the good of humanity, and has furnished us valuable assistance in compiling this work. Mr. Ball settled on the northeast quarter of section 10, consisting of 113 acres at present; formerly owned 480.

*Charles Bartz* was born in Germany in 1852; came to the United States in company with his father, Wm. Bartz, in 1854. They located first in Watertown, Jefferson County, Wis. Here they remained about fifteen years. In 1869 they became citizens of Floyd County. Charles Bartz made his home with his parent, in St. Charles Township five years after coming here. In 1874 he purchased 160 acres on section 25, Ulster Township, where he still

resides, and built a fine house the following year. He was married in Wisconsin, April 30, 1869, to Miss Bertha Dangs, a native of Germany. They have three children—Matilda, Edward and Walter. He farms usually about 100 acres and keeps about fourteen head of cattle, thirty-five hogs and five horses. Politically he is, and always has been, a Republican; also his father before him; has filled the office of Township Trustee for more than a year.

*John Bell* was born in Ireland in 1827. At the age of 21, in company with three brothers and five sisters, he left Ireland for Canada. While on the voyage they were taken with a disease called emigrant's fever. Two of the youngest boys died at sea and two sisters died soon after reaching Canada. Mr. Bell was taken to the hospital, but at the expiration of ten days slipped away from the authorities. Going to the country he secured places for his brothers and sisters and himself, engaging as a hand in a tannery where he remained for three years, when he went to Dixon, Ill., where he hired with a company who were engaged in building a dam across Rock River; with them he remained a year and a half; he then went to Oregon, Wis., and worked till fall, when he returned to Canada and brought his brothers and sisters to Beloit, Wis., where he had previously secured places for them. While at work on Turtle Creek, Wis., repairing a dam he made the acquaintance of Miss Sarah E. Bagley, who became his wife Oct. 21, 1851. She was a native of New York State, being born there Aug. 25, 1831. The next spring they went to Rockton, Ill., where Mr. Ball worked five years in a paper-mill. From there they moved to Clayton County, Iowa, where he remained two years, working as a hand among lumber principally, afterward moved to this county and farmed. In 1862 went to Pike's Peak, but finding it unprofitable soon returned and moved to Charles City, Floyd County, Ia. In the following spring he rented a farm in Ulster Township, and farmed as a renter four years. In the spring of 1868 he purchased a farm of 120 acres on section 4, Ulster Township, where he still resides. His family consists of two children—Ida May, now the wife of S. H. Matson, resides in Estherville, Emmett County, Iowa (Mr. Matson is editor of the *Vindicator*); Harry L., the second child, is sixteen and lives at home. Mr. Ball served thirteen years on the School Board, first year as Secretary, the balance of the time as President of the board; has served as Justice of the Peace two terms and married four couples, the only persons married by a justice of the peace in the

town. He has always been a temperance worker, and at present is the Grand Worthy Assistant of the Sons of Temperance of the State of Iowa.

*W. S. Briggs* was born in Tioga County, Penn., in 1842. At the age of twenty-three he came to Iowa, locating in Oasian, Winneshiek County. Taught the village school the first winter. Afterward engaged as bookkeeper for the firm of Brooks Brothers, hardwaremen; with them he remained a year and a half. At the expiration of this time he went into the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad office, where he remained about four years. Afterward he went into the employ of a grain dealer by the name of R. N. Sawyer; with him he remained about a year. At this date, being in 1872, he went to Michigan, locating permanently in Montcalm County, where he engaged in the lumbering business, remaining over four years. In the spring of 1877 he became a citizen of Floyd County, locating on section 8, Ulster Township, on a farm of 120 acres, which he purchased in 1866, paying therefor \$400. He sold forty acres of it in 1878. In the years 1877 and 1878 he built himself a good house. He has his farm under a good state of cultivation. Mr Briggs received his education at Knoxville Academy, Pa., afterward attending Osceola Academy, finishing at the State Normal School of Mansfield. Afterward took a commercial course at Binghamton, N. Y. Mr. Briggs was married in 1869 in Michigan to Miss Tina E. Hunter, a native of Michigan, being born in Lenawee County, in 1844. Their family consists of three children—Lora H., Lulu A. and an infant son not yet named. Briggs E. A. Mead, a sister's son, makes his home with Mr. Briggs, who expects to raise him. Mr. Briggs has been School Director and is now President of the board. Politically is a Republican.

*Eugene S. Brown* was born in Hampshire County, Mass. He is a son of E. T. Brown, who was born in Worcester County, Mass., in 1806. In 1832 he married Miss Persees Alone, a native of Berkshire County, Mass., born 1807. Their family consisted of five children, three sons and two daughters. Atherton was killed at the battle of Shiloh, at the age of twenty. He was a soldier in Company K, Third Iowa Infantry. In June, 1854, E. S. Brown came to Charles City. At that time the cars only came West as far as Warren. There they took the boat to McGregor, and walked to Charles City. The year following, 1855, his father, mother, brother and adopted sister joined him. Mr. Brown remained in Charles City till 1875. He first engaged as a clerk, but afterward



engaged as a farmer. In 1874 Mr. Brown purchased the farm of 140 acres where he still resides, on section 35, Ulster Township, built his house and made all his improvements. He enlisted in Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa, Sixteenth Army Corps, August, 1862, under the command of A. J. Smith; went up the Red River in assisting General Banks; was with Smith on the Meridian raid; at Nashville when Hood came, and previous to that followed Price through Missouri with Rosecranz; thence to a skirmish with Forrest at Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, where they had an engagement; started from Montjery, July 16; at Clinton Aug. 9. Mr. and Mrs. Brown and George Whitehead and wife were the first and only members for a while of the Baptist church, Charles City.

*A. S. Brownell* was born in New York State, in 1835; made that State his home till twenty-nine years of age, when he came to Iowa, locating in Manchester, Delaware County, where he worked at his trade four years, he being a carpenter and joiner; afterward engaged in the stock and grain business about five years. In 1873 he became a citizen of this county. The first four years he spent in Charles City engaged in the stock business. In 1877 he moved upon his farm of 480 acres on sections 27 and 28, Ulster Township, which he had purchased in 1875. Here he has since made his home, and a pleasant one it is. Five years ago it was one unbroken wild prairie, but to a stranger it now bears the appearance of a long-cultivated farm. It is all under a good state of cultivation, besides being beautifully situated in plain view of M. & St. P. R. R. and the village of Floyd, though seven miles away. Mr. Brownell has adorned and embellished this farm with shade trees, evergreens and fine buildings, so that we are safe in saying that his farm surpasses all others in the township, and cannot be excelled anywhere; has in crop over 400 acres, 205 acres of which is corn; has a complete set of farming implements including planters, mowers, harvesters etc. In addition to his extensive farming he deals largely in stock, keeping usually from 130 to 140 head of cattle, though last year he wintered about 200 head and fattened fifty; turned off in the spring about ninety head. Keeps about 100 head of hogs, and nineteen head of horses. In the State of New York, in 1855, he and Miss Mary McDonald were united in marriage. She was a native of New York State. They have six children—Charles, Ada, Elwin, Carrie, Mary and Albert.

*L. B. Clark* was born in Orange County, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1862. He was a son of Isaac Clark, who died when L. B. Clark was a mere child. His avocation was that of a laborer. When Mr. Clark was about twenty-nine years of age he left the State and went to Fond du Lac County, Wis., where he worked at the trade of mason, remaining about twelve years. He contracted and hired hands, a good share of his work being in Ripon. Failing in health, he determined to abandon his trade, and came to Ulster Township, Floyd County, and purchased 131 acres on section 18, paying \$10 per acre. At this time it was all wild land, but he has brought it all under a good state of cultivation, and has made it his home. In the State of New York, in the year 1850, he and Miss Ann Amelia Ray were married. They lived happily together till she was removed by death in the year 1853, while they still resided in New York State. They had two children, but both died when small. Mr. Clark married his second wife in 1860. Her name was Carrie S. Orr, a native of Scotland, coming to this country when a child. She made him a good wife, till death with its silent tread again stealthily crept into Mr. Clark's home, May 1, 1881, and removed the wife and mother, leaving a family of seven children—Edwin L., Nellie, Alice, May, Daisy Belle, Charles V., Ida Birda and Wm. Ernest. Mr. Clark is a man who has nobly fought the battle of life alone. In his present loneliness his children are keeping house, and trying to make home pleasant for him. Both Mr. and Mrs. Clark were members of the Baptist church in Wisconsin, and also after they came to Iowa. Mr. Clark still maintains the relationship.

*Edward Crowell* (deceased) was born in the town of Half Moon, N. Y., in 1807. When about six years of age he moved with his parents to Allegany County, N. Y., where he made his home till about thirty-six years of age. In 1828 he and Miss Esther Felt were united in marriage. They had five children—Elmina, George W., Andrew J., Phoebe and Helen M. Mrs. Crowell died in 1840. In 1841 he married his second wife, Mrs. Caroline (Persons) Capen. They had nine children—Edward, Abigail, James M., Silas R., John H., Oren L., Charles W., R. Esther and Lily L. Mrs. Crowell had two children by her first husband. Their names were Richard W. and Sylvia Capen. Of this large double family all are still living except Sylvia, who died in 1860, at the age of twenty-two, and Esther, who died in 1881, at the age of 29. She was the wife of Sereno Whitney. In 1856 Mr. Crowell moved with his family to

Ulster Township, this county, where he resided till his death, which occurred March 11, 1881. Mrs. Crowell still makes the homestead her abiding place. Of Mr. Crowell it may be said he was one of the pioneers who helped lay the very foundations of the history of Floyd County. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crowell were members of the M. E. church for thirty years. He was a member of the I. O. O. F., and started the order in this county.

*Edward Crowell, Jr.*, was born in Centreville, Allegany County, N. Y., Dec. 16, 1840. In the year 1843 his father and family moved to Bloomfield, Walworth County, Wis., where they remained till 1856, when they came to Floyd County, Ia., and located in Ulster Township, upon a farm of 240 acres. Edward Crowell, Sr., had entered on sections 30 and 31 the year previous. This property the family call the old homestead. It is here the family grew to man and womanhood; it is here the father and mother lived happily together till death broke the ties by removing Mr. Edward Crowell, Sr., March 12, 1881; and it is here the mother still lives. At the age of twenty-one Mr. Edward Crowell, Jr., the subject of this sketch, enlisted in Company G, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He served his full term, being three years; was mustered out May 6, 1865, at Davenport, Ia.; was never wounded nor taken prisoner, but was a hospital patient about fifteen months; was very low with typhoid pneumonia and erysipelas, and we are sorry to have this fact to chronicle that he is still a sufferer from the effects. His army experience was that of the usual faithful soldier—hard marches, hot skirmishes, and short rations, and the usual exhausting and undermining camp-life. After his return from the army he moved upon his farm of eighty acres, which he had purchased in 1863, on section 29, Ulster Township. Here he lived till the year 1880, when he sold and purchased eighty acres on section 31, same township, where he still resides. He has under cultivation about fifty acres, and has usually about fifteen head of cattle, four horses and thirty hogs. June 3, 1864, he and Miss Sarah Y. Porter were united in marriage. She was a native of Steuben County, N. Y., born in 1846. They have five children—Dora L., Clarence H., Clyde A., Guy E. and Ida O. Politically Mr. Crowell is a sound Republican. Is at present Justice of the Peace, which he has been for many years, and has held various township offices. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

*John H. Crowell* was born in Walworth County, Wis., in 1847. He is a son of Edward Crowell, who came from Allegany County, N. Y., to Wisconsin about 1841, remaining till 1856, when he came to Iowa, and located upon 240 acres which he had bought the year previous, on sections 30 and 31, Ulster Township, this county, where he made his home till his death, which occurred in March, 1881. Edward Crowell, as will be seen by these dates, was one of Floyd County's pioneers, and his position in those matters of early date shows that he was a man of public spirit, whose name will never be forgotten in the history of this county. The author of this work was one of his early friends and associates. An item of interest is well worthy of the space it takes here, and we give it as related by his son, J. H. Crowell: One day, when he and his little brother were in the field, W. P. Gaylord came and asked his father to accompany him that day. In answer to the boys' inquiry as to where he was going, Mr. Crowell replied that they were going to set the most important stake in the county, it being the staking off of the court-house ground. This spot was in the geographical center of the county and near the east line of Ulster Township. History shows that this place was one of some contest and contention, and after some hot spirit and solid voting it was placed upon record as the county seat, by a large majority. But afterward some of the Charles City people, and those whose interests centered there, concluded there was some discrepancy in the voting, and, without thoroughly testing the technicality, proceeded to locate the county seat at Charles City and erect public buildings. J. H. Crowell accompanied his father to this county, and made his home with him till he was twenty-one years of age. At this date he married Miss Libbie Pyatt, a native of New York State, being born there in 1852. Their family consists of five children—Jennie G., Burton L., Irving R., Granville P. and Charles G., aged twelve, ten, seven, four and one, respectively. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crowell are members of the Congregational church of Ulster Township. In the year 1861 he purchased forty acres on section 31, Ulster Township, where he still resides, and also a forty on section 30, making a farm of eighty acres, all under good cultivation. He usually puts in crop of from fifty to sixty acres, and keeps in stock, all told, about forty head.

*S. W. Crowell* was born in Bloomfield, Walworth County, Wis., in 1845. He is a son of Edward Crowell, who was one of Floyd County's pioneers, and whose biography will be found in this

work. S. W. Crowell became a citizen of Floyd County in 1856 ; made his first purchase of real estate in 1864. This was a tract of forty acres on section 30, Ulster Township ; this he afterward sold and bought eighty acres on section 29, which he also sold. He again made a purchase of forty acres on section 31. This he also soon sold, each transaction yielding him a fair profit. In the year 1866 he purchased fifty acres on section 5, where he now resides. In 1873 he bought forty acres on section 31, adjoining his other land, making a farm of ninety acres. He usually puts in crop about sixty acres, and keeps about six head of cattle, two horses, and from fifty to seventy hogs. He was married in Charles City in 1871 to Esther A. Collins, a native of New York, born in 1841. They have two children—Ralph, aged five years, and Nellie, aged two. Politically Mr. Crowell is a Greenbacker ; has held the office of Assessor for two years.

*C. Dinkel* was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1839 ; came to America in 1856, locating first in Dodge County, Wis., where he spent about four years working as a farm hand ; from thence he went to Marathon County, where he owned a piece of timber. Here he remained about eight years engaged in the lumber business as a hand. In the year 1868 he became a citizen of Floyd County ; purchased same year eighty acres on section 14, Ulster Township, where he still resides ; has since added to his original purchase eighty acres ; forty was bought in 1872 and forty in 1874. The location and soil and improvements of this farm number it among the best in the county. He used to farm as high as eighty and ninety acres of wheat, but the crop proving an unprofitable one he now farms only about twenty-five. Has in corn fifty acres, and twenty-two in oats. In addition to farming, Mr. Dinkel makes stock-raising quite an item, and expects to go into it even more extensively. Keeps on an average about twenty-five head of cattle, and from thirty to forty hogs, and four head of horses. Mr. Dunkel was married in Wisconsin, in 1866, to Miss Paulina Kopplin, a native of Germany. They have eight children—Bertie, Mary, Anna, Carl, Otto, Clara, Lena and Huldah. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dinkel are members of the Lutheran church.

*John Drager* was born in Germany in 1842, and came to the United States about the year 1868, locating first in Wisconsin, working on the farm as a hand about five years, then rented a piece of land one year. In the fall of 1874 he became a citizen of Floyd County, Ia., and purchased a farm of forty acres on section 3,

Ulster Township, where he still resides. He has since bought 105 acres, making a farm of 145, that is as good as the county affords; farms about sixty-five acres usually, putting out about ten acres of wheat, thirty-five of oats, and sixteen of corn. He farms in addition to this, thirty-four acres of corn, five of oats, and fifteen of wheat. He was married in Wisconsin in 1869 to Miss Augusta Grete. They have seven children, four boys and three girls — Amel, Frank, Emma, Elizabeth, Lena, Charles and George. Both Mr. and Mrs. Drager are members of the Methodist church.

*Herman Eichmeier* was born in Germany in 1838. At the age of eighteen he came to America, locating first in Freeport, Ill., where he remained about thirteen years, engaged in farming principally, though part of the time he was engaged in making brick. In the year 1871 he came to Floyd County, Iowa, and purchased his present farm of eighty-three acres, where he now resides, in Ulster Township. In 1878 he made another purchase of eighty acres adjoining his other. For the first he paid \$1,800; for the second, \$1,050, the last being unimproved land. Floyd County farmers have generally found both grain and stock farms to be the most profitable. This year Mr. Eichmeier has in crop twenty acres of wheat, seventeen of oats, forty-three of corn, and thirty of grass; keeps about twenty head of cattle, forty hogs and seven horses. Mr. Eichmeier was married in Freeport, Ill., in 1866, to Miss Caroline Bicker, a native of Germany, being born there in 1847. Their family consists of five children—William H., Saimon A., Henry, Hermon and Anna Mary. Both are members of the Methodist church. He votes the Republican ticket.

*F. W. Gabel* was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1839. In 1854 he came to the United States with his father and mother, John and Josephine Gabel. There was of the family nine children. Here in Wisconsin Mr. F. Gabel spent the first fourteen years. A little instance of his life is well worthy of mention here, to illustrate how a man may start from nothing and by energy and perseverance wring from the hard hand of toil an independent fortune: At the age of sixteen he, in company with another lad of his own age, started from home with a lunch between them, and only ten cents to bear expenses. This was the possession of Mr. Gabel. They walked to Rosedale, a distance of 35 miles. Failing to find work they returned, still holding on to the ten cents. These are remembered by Mr. Gable as being the hardest times it has ever been his lot to pass through. In 1868 he became a citizen of Floyd County. The

same year purchased eighty acres on section 14, Ulster Township, where he still resides. To this he has since added 320 acres, making one of the largest and best farms in the county. In 1875 he built the finest house in the township, and the county affords no better. He not only has its surroundings beautified with shade and ever-green trees, symmetrically arranged, but he has the inside beautifully furnished and ornamented with modern art. Of this large farm all is under cultivation except eighty acres of timber and pasture land. He puts in crops yearly 320 acres, besides keeping seventy-three head of cattle, and about 100 head of hogs and ten head of horses. Mr. Gabel was married May 5, 1868, to Miss Agnes Devilla. She was a native of Belgium, born there in 1847. They have four children—Devilla, John, George and Freddie. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gable are members of the Catholic church.

*August Gelhaus* was born in Germany, July 5, 1847. In 1873 he came to America, locating first in Illinois. In December, 1873, he became a citizen of Floyd County, purchasing his farm of eighty acres, on section 19, Ulster Township, where he still resides. He built a nice barn in 1877. In 1876 he purchased eighty acres on section 29; has in corn seventy acres, wheat twelve, oats thirty, hay twelve, and rye ten; has six horses, seventeen cattle and sixty hogs. Dec. 15, 1873, he and Miss Wilhelmina Winter were married. They have four children—August, Lydia, Clara and Matilda. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gelhaus are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a sound Republican.

*E. H. Hanchett* was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., May 18, 1830. At the age of four he moved with his father to Cuyahoga County, O., where they remained ten years. From there they moved to Walworth County, Wis., where E. H. made his home about twelve years, engaged in farming. At the expiration of this time E. H. Hanchett came to Iowa, locating upon a farm of eighty acres, which he purchased of the Government in 1855, section 29, Ulster Township. Here he has since resided, making him one of Floyd County's pioneers, and one of the very first settlers of Ulster Township. Has added to this first purchase five acres of timber. Built himself a good farm house in 1870. With the exception of a few oak-trees he set out all that now so beautifully surrounds his house. He has indeed a nice farm and pleasant home. Has under cultivation about sixty acres. In Walworth County, Wis., Feb. 25, 1858, he and Miss Caroline Bessee were united in marriage. She was a native of Michigan.

They have five children—Allen, Lanson, Lucinda, Silas and Nellie. Of Mr. Hanchett we are pleased to say he is not only one of the first men in this county in point of time, but one of the first in society and in the interests of agriculture and the county generally.

*G. F. Heitz* was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., Dec. 11, 1855. He is a son of John Heitz, who, in the year 1868, purchased 183 acres on section 2, Ulster Township, Floyd County, where G. F. Heitz and his brother, John Heitz, Jr., now reside. In the year 1876 G. F. Heitz came to Ulster Township and worked about one year on a farm. That fall he returned to Illinois, there he remained till the following March, when he, in company with his father and family, moved to Floyd County, Ia., where his father still resides. In the fall G. F. returned to Illinois, and the 19th of February was married to Miss Mary Haas, who was also born in Jo Daviess County, Ill. This same spring he and wife moved to Charles City, remaining only a short time, when he moved on to the piece of land formerly purchased by his father in Ulster Township; he and his brother each buying a half of 183 acres. In the year 1869 Mr. Heitz built himself a pleasant residence. His farm is one of the good ones of Floyd County. Up till the present he has turned his attention principally to farming, but recently has turned his mind toward stock-raising. This year he has thirty acres of corn, eighteen acres of oats, fifteen acres of wheat, and twenty-eight acres in hay. Has on hand fifty head of hogs, eight head of cattle, and four horses. His family consists of two children—John William and an infant daughter. Is a sound Republican. Is at present the Constable of Ulster County.

*John Heitz, Jr.*, was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., Jan. 30, 1852. He is a son of John Heitz, Sr., who is now a resident of St. Charles Township, Floyd County. In the year 1875 John Heitz, Jr., left Illinois and came to Floyd County, and worked the first summer for Mr. Blunt, near Charles City. The spring following he moved upon the north half of the 183 acres his father had previously purchased on section 2, Ulster Township. This same spring he purchased this tract of land from his father. In the fall previous to moving upon the farm he built himself a pleasant residence, where he still resides. His farm has the appearance of thrift and of being under the care of a model farmer. He makes farming his principal avocation. This year has in crop fourteen acres wheat; oats, twenty; corn, thirty-five; one-half acre potatoes; has five head of cattle; usually keeps twenty-five or thirty hogs and three horses.



He was married in 1876 to Anna Sabina Toepfer, a native of Germany, born May 6, 1850. Their family consists of three children—Henry John, Anna Elizabeth, Emma Louisa. Both Mr. and Mrs. Heitz are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican.

*Mathias August Hirsch* was born in Grant County, Wis., March 4, 1853. He is a son of Fredric Hirsch, who emigrated to this country in 1847, from Germany, locating in Illinois; moved to Grant County, Wis., the following year, where he remained till his death, which occurred in the year 1866, leaving a family of five sons and one daughter. In 1875 M. A. Hirsch married Emma Stoeber, a native of Grant County, Wis., being born there in 1854. The family consists of three sons—Irving S., Henry W., Charles A. Mr. Hirsch owns a nice place of forty acres which he purchased in 1874, all under fine cultivation and improvements; his buildings and surroundings surpassing many older homes and in older counties. Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch are both members of the German M. E. church. Mr. Hirsch is an old-time sound Republican.

*C. W. Hudson* was born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1830. When a young man he received a common-school education. He remained in New York till about twenty-four years of age engaged in farming, principally in Steuben, Wayne and Oneida counties. In the year 1855 he went to Ogle County, Ill., where he worked by the month and day as a farm hand, remaining about four years. In the winter of 1859 he became a citizen of Floyd County, thus making him one of its pioneers. Located in Ulster Township. The first season rented a piece of land on section 30. Afterward rented for two years the farm of 140 acres which he now owns and where he resides, section 30, Ulster Township. This purchase was made in the fall of 1865, paying \$1,090. Has since erected good farm buildings; has a splendid barn, built only last summer, 36 x 60. He used to put out twenty-five and thirty acres of wheat; oats, fifteen; from sixty to seventy acres of corn. His farm is about the same now, with the exception of wheat, which he does not find profitable to raise. Of late years has turned his attention more to stock, keeping about twenty-five head of cattle, and from sixty to eighty hogs. In Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill., July 5, 1858, he and wife, Susan Hellman, were united in marriage. They have no family. He votes the Republican ticket, and has several years held the office of Trustee. Though he never learned the trade he built his own barn, never drawing a draft.

*Thomas W. Johnson* was born in England in 1826; came to the United States in the fall of 1877; spent the first two years in company with his son, George W., and his wife, upon the farm of his deceased brother, Wilbert G., an account of which is given in the biography of W. R. Johnson. In the spring of 1880 Mr. Johnson bought eighty acres of R. M. Curry, on section 26, Ulster Township, where he still resides. Besides this eighty, he and his son, George W., farm the adjoining eighty. Mr. Johnson's farm is well calculated for stock; near a herd yard, and plenty open prairie. He has a nice house and pleasant surroundings. In England Thomas W. Johnson was married to Miss Mary Capaw in the year 1854. They have seven children—Anna Mary, Jane Annetta, George Willis, Elizabeth Chapman, Zilpah Lydia, Henry Theophilus, and Nellie. Mr. Johnson's wife and family are still in England, except George W. (who married Alice Jane Napels, a native of England; they keep house for his father; they have two children—Florence Anna and Julia Annetta), and a daughter, Jane Annetta, who married Oren Bowen, a son of Mr. Bowen, of Rockford Township. They reside in Fargo, Dak. Previous to coming to America Mr. Johnson had been connected with the dry-goods and shipping business in Manchester, England, for about twenty years, with one of the largest firms of the city, A. and S. Henry & Co. who shipped large quantities of goods to New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Thirteen millions of sterling in amount of goods were sometimes shipped in twelve months. Mr. Johnson returned to England in the fall of 1882 to see his family and mother, who still resides there at the advanced age of eighty-five. He is her only surviving child of a family of five children.

*W. R. Johnson* was born in Ulster Township in 1858. He was a son of W. G. Johnson, who came from England in 1856 and purchased a farm of 380 acres in Ulster Township. Upon this farm he made many improvements—hailed brick from Waverly, a distance of fifty miles, and built a two-story brick house, 16 x 20, with a one-story L, the base of which was nearly as large as the two-story part; he also built a log stable, 18 x 28. Here he and his wife made their home about four years, when Mrs. Johnson was killed by lightning while standing in the stairway of her house. Shortly after this event Mr. Johnson and his son, W. R., went to Chicago to live, renting the farm; returned in 1867, and lived here till the fall of 1869, when they both returned to Yorkshire, England, and there Mr. Johnson Sr., died in 1876,

In the fall of 1877 Mr. Johnson, accompanied by an uncle and cousin, returned to America to look after his interests in the West. During his absence the place had been lying idle, and he found that the neighbors had hauled the house almost entirely away. The scarcity of brick of course made a valid excuse, but the stealing of the log stable and a log house in the woods in the midst of timber scarcely excuses the act. His uncle and cousin assisted in the care of the farm till 1880, when W. R. assumed control, and has since that time been manager and proprietor of three fourths of the farm, having a sister in England. He has 140 acres under cultivation. While in England he spent eighteen months on the sea; visited Australia and San Francisco in a sailing vessel, touching Ireland on the return voyage. In 1881 he again visited England. He was married in the spring of 1881, in Charles City, to Miss Mary Blunt.

*August Koch* was born in Germany, in 1841. He was a son of Christian Koch, a native of Germany, who died there in 1875. At the age of twenty-eight August Koch came to the United States, locating first in Wisconsin, where he remained about two years, working as a farm hand. At the expiration of that time he became a citizen of Ulster Township, Floyd County, Ia., where he spent the first summer as a farm hand; afterward rented a farm and continued as a renter for about four years. In 1876 he purchased eighty acres in Union Township, where he remained one year, when he sold it at an advance of his purchase price. In 1877 he purchased eighty acres where he still resides, on section 17, Ulster Township. The same year he built himself a good residence, and put the farm under a good state of cultivation. His surroundings are very pleasant, and he now owns one of the good farms and enjoyable homes of Floyd County. In January, 1880, he purchased a nice piece of timber of five acres. He used to put out from fifty to sixty acres in wheat, but late years only eighteen or twenty acres. At present he has about thirty-two acres of corn; oats about ten; has about thirteen head of cattle, thirty-five hogs, and four head of horses. In Germany, in 1867, he and Miss Minnie Sthal, a native of Germany, were united in marriage. Their family consists of six children—Minnie, John, Emma, Albert, Otto and Herman. Both Mr. and Mrs. Koch are members of the Methodist church. Politically Mr. Koch is a Republican, and is at present Constable in Ulster Township; has held the office of Supervisor and School Director. Of Mr. Koch we are pleased to say we find

him one of Floyd County's model farmers, and a man of energy. He has by his own exertions brought himself from the position of dependence to that of independence.

*August Koehler* was born in Germany in 1838; came to America in 1865, locating first in Wisconsin, where he remained two years, working as a farm hand. He afterward rented a farm, which he ran about eight years. In 1874 he came to Floyd County, and rented a farm in St. Charles Township one year. In 1875 he purchased the farm of eighty acres where he still resides, on section 17, Ulster Township. In the year 1882 he repaired his house, making indeed a pleasant home, surrounded by a fine grove. He owns one of the good farms of Floyd County, and has it under a fine state of cultivation. He has in wheat twenty-five acres; oats, sixteen acres; corn, twenty-two acres, besides twenty he is working on another farm. His stock consists of two horses, fourteen head of cattle and eighteen head of hogs. In 1866, in Wisconsin, Mr. Koehler and Miss Amelia Koehler were united in marriage. Their family consists of seven children—Ida, William, Minna, Henry, Albert, Mertie, and an infant daughter not yet named. Both Mr. and Mrs. Koehler are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican.

*Henry Koehler* was born in Prussia in 1840. At the age of twenty-six he came to the United States, locating in Wisconsin and remaining there four years. In 1870 he purchased the farm of 150 acres where he still resides, on section 3, Ulster Township, Floyd County, Ia. In 1870, in Wisconsin, he married Miss Louisa Otterstine, also a native of Prussia, being born there in 1848. She came to Wisconsin at the age of eight years. Their family consists of six children—Emma, Emil, Frank, Charles, Bertie and George. Both Mr. and Mrs. Koehler are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Koehler has been Supervisor and is now School Director. Politically he is a Republican. In 1862-'63 he was a private in the Prussian army.

*Henry Koehlstadt* was born in Germany in 1842, and came to America in 1860. The first four years in this country were spent near Frankfort, Ill., where he worked as a farm hand. One of the strongest inducements his mother had to leave the old country, was to free her sons from the army requirements. But to her astonishment, all of her three sons enlisted in the war for the Union. Henry Koehlstadt enlisted Jan. 16, 1864, Company C, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served his country two

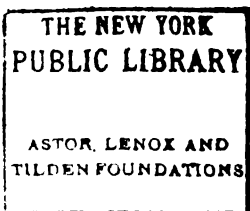
years; held the office of Corporal the last six months; was never wounded, taken prisoner nor in the hospital a day in his life. After his army life he returned to his Illinois home and farmed two years. Purchased eighty acres on section 16, Ulster Township, this county, in August, 1868; moved upon it in October. Has added to his first possessions till now he owns 165 acres of as good land as lies in Floyd County. Puts in a crop of usually twenty acres of wheat, but formerly raised high as sixty and seventy acres; has forty-five in corn and twenty in oats; has thirty-two head of cattle, seventy-five hogs and five horses. Was married in Illinois in 1866, to Miss Caroline Venneolt, a native of Germany; came to this country with parents when she was one year old. They have seven children—William, Martha, Emil, Ida, Samuel, Henry and Sarah. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a local preacher in the same.

*Simon Koerner* was born in Germany in 1841; came to America Sept. 4, 1873, locating first in Stephenson County, Ill., where he purchased forty acres of land and farmed two and one-half years, when he sold his farm and came to Floyd County, Ia., and bought the farm of 160 acres where he still resides, in Ulster Township, section 7. In 1878 he built one of the finest houses in Floyd County and built a fine barn in 1881. Has always found stock-raising and farming, run together, the most profitable. Heretofore he has raised usually from fifty to sixty acres of wheat, ten to twelve acres of oats, and sixty to seventy acres of corn. He usually keeps about twelve head of milch cows and about the same number of young cattle, fifty head of hogs and five horses. His motto is that "well-fed stock pays the best." Mr. Koerner was married in Germany in 1869 to Miss Wilhelmina Gelhaus. Their family consists of six children—Charles, Emil, William, Edward, Minna, and an infant son not yet named. Both Mr. and Mrs. Koerner are members of the German Methodist church. Their children can all read and speak both the English and German languages. Of Mr. Koerner we are pleased to say he has by industry wrung from the hard hand of toil one of the finest farms and homes of Floyd County. Has held the position of Supervisor. Politically he is a Republican.

*Charles A. Lenz* was born in Germany in 1822. In 1841 he came to America, locating in Wisconsin, where he remained three years, at the expiration of which time he moved to Floyd County, Iowa. He purchased the farm of sixty acres where he still resides,



*H. C. Herman.*



in Ulster Township. Built a fine residence in 1874, the year after he moved upon his land. Mr. Lenz was married in Germany, in 1847, to Miss Doratha Koehler. The family consists of six children—Fred W., Ernest H., Caroline, Amelia, Henry and Augusta. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lenz are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican. His children all speak and read English.

*M. F. Lessin* was born in Germany, Oct. 25, 1837; came to this country in 1865, and stopped the first four years in Wisconsin. In the spring of 1869 he came to Floyd County, and worked on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St Paul Railroad during the summer. In the fall he purchased sixty acres in Ulster Township, where he still resides. In the fall of 1875 he purchased fifty-four acres adjoining his other land. Here he has lived since first coming into the State with the exception of the years 1873-'75. He traveled as preacher in the German Methodist church; was at Shell Rock, Iowa, and on the Mountain Lake Circuit, Minn.; was a local preacher twelve years. In the year 1865, in Germany, Mr. Lessin and Miss Minna Swartz were united in marriage. She only lived about one year, leaving one child—August Fredric, now fifteen years of age. Mr. Lessin married his second wife in Wisconsin in 1869; her name was Louisa Sette. She was also born in Germany and came to this country with her parents at about the age of thirteen. By this union they have seven children—Augusta, Amelia, Charles, Fredric, John Henry, Emiel Ernest, Bertie, Rosena and Lydia Emma. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lessin are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically is a Republican.

*John Lines* was born in Warwickshire, England, May 3, 1834. In the spring of 1852 he came to America, locating first in Ogle County, Ill., where he remained about one year; moved then to De Kalb County, and remained about two years, working as a farm hand all the time. In the month of April, 1855, he became a citizen of Floyd County, working by the month the first two years. In the spring of 1855 he pre-empted eighty acres in Ulster Township, bought ten acres of timber in Union Township. In 1857 he commenced improving and farming this place. In 1876 he built upon it a good farm house and other buildings. Has added to his first purchase eighty acres, making one of Floyd Counties best one-quarter section farms. Has always found stock more profitable than farming, keeps about seventeen head of cattle;



hogs, eighty head, and horses, ten head. In former years he used to put out fifty acres of wheat, but finding it an unprofitable crop has this year only thirteen acres, with corn seventy-five, oats forty, and fifteen of meadow. In 1859 he and Mrs. Fanny Hillman (widow of James Hillman, deceased) were united in marriage. Their family consists of five children--John William, Jennie M., Charles Henry, Mary E., and Lizzie D. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lines are members of the Christian church. Politically we find Mr. Lines a sound Republican; aspires to no office, though he does his share of holding township positions in school affairs.

*William Lines, Jr.*, was born in England in 1832; came to America in 1853, locating first in Ogle County, Ill., where he remained about three years engaged as a farm hand. In 1856 he became citizen of Floyd County, and worked the first three years as a farm hand. In 1859 he bought on time his present farm of eighty acres, situated on section 29, Ulster Township. In 1863 he built a good farm house; in 1880 built a fine barn. He has improved this farm and beautified it with nice groves and shade trees till it is numbered among Floyd County's best farms and pleasant homes. Keeps five head of horses, ten head of cattle and forty-two hogs. Puts out thirty-five acres of corn; oats, twenty; wheat, ten. On Feb. 13, 1877, he and Miss Mattie Roschen were united in marriage. They have two little sons--William H. and Frederic A., ages four and two. Politically he is a Republican.

*O. McEwen* was born in Ulster County, N. Y., May 18, 1833. At the age of twenty three he came to Iowa, locating on Flood Creek, Ulster Township, section 32, where he had, two years previously, entered 200 acres at Government price, being \$1.25 per acre. This he improved and afterward disposed of a portion. At present he owns 200 acres of choice farming land, well improved, and supplied with buildings surpassing many in older counties. Mr. McEwen has principally been engaged in farming. In 1831 he started a creamery, working up the milk of about 500 cows into butter. He expects to add to it a cheese apparatus. Mr. McEwen has not only been a man who could look well after his own business, but has most of the time since coming to the county held some office of trust for the people; viz., Township Clerk, Trustee, etc., besides holding the position of Sunday-school Superintendent for the past twenty years. Nov. 29, 1857, he and Phoebe Crowell were united in marriage. She was also a native

of New York State, being born in Allegany County in 1836. Their family consists of four children—Elbridge O., Fred H., Rena and Gertie, ages twenty-three, twenty-one, fifteen and six respectively. Both Mr. and Mrs. McEwan are members of the Congregational church. They not only enjoy the respect of their neighbors, but the love of their children, and a hope in the world to come as well as a pleasant home here.

*W. L. McEwen* was born in Ulster County, N. Y., Jan. 19, 1831. In May, 1856, he, in company with two brothers, came to Iowa. W. L. McEwen located upon a piece of land in Ulster Township which he had entered two years previous, his brother, O. McEwen, securing the Government deed. On this tract of land Mr. McEwen still resides, being situated on section 32. He received a practical business education in the East, and has most of the time since coming West been engaged in teaching school, which avocation, we are pleased to state, we found him engaged in, assisting in laying broad and deep the future history of the West. Nov. 30, 1853, he and Harriet Rhinehart were united in marriage. She was also a native of New York State, being born in Ulster County, July 4, 1832. Their family consists of three sons and one daughter—John Howard, Charles Eugene, Elmer Elsworth and Florence May; ages, twenty-six, twenty-four, twenty-one and thirteen respectively. Howard is married, and keeps the Putnam House at Rockwell. Eugene also married and has been a partner in the firm of Eggert & McEwen, publishers of the *Rockford Reveille*. The other children are at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. McEwen are members of the Congregational church. Mr. McEwen was elected Township Clerk at the first election, and has held that position till within the last two years; is at present Township Secretary. He was born with the Republican party.

*Jacob Metz* was born in Ohio in 1849. He was a son of Mr. John George Metz, who moved with his family to Wisconsin in 1854. Here Jacob Metz made his home till Sept. 28, 1876, when he became a citizen of Floyd County. At this date he purchased forty acres on section 9, Ulster Township; has since purchased twenty-two acres, making in all sixty-two acres. He built a good house in 1877, and has made many improvements, till now he has indeed a good farm and pleasant home. He has about seven acres in wheat, two in oats, eighteen in corn, besides fifteen he farms outside. He was married in Wisconsin in 1869 to Betsy M. Liske, a native of Germany. She came to this country when a child two years of

age. They have five children—Emma M., William G., Anna M., Martha and Lilly. Both Mr. and Mrs. Metz are members of the Lutheran church. Politically he is a Democrat.

*John Moll* was born in Mechlenburg-Schwerin, Germany, June 17, 1832. In 1857 he came to America, locating first in Columbus, Wis., where he worked by the day and month for about five years. Afterward handled wheat in a warehouse for buyers about four years, then teamed for himself about five years, which he found quite profitable. In Columbus he built himself a good home, which he sold in 1870, and came to Ulster Township, Floyd County, and purchased 120 acres, where he still resides on section 28. He commenced improving his land, and soon had it under cultivation and adorned with shade trees, etc. In 1875 he purchased an adjoining eighty acres, on section 27. He used the splendid wheat crop of 1878 to build himself a fine residence and barn. Again, in 1882, he purchased another eighty acres which joined his farm on the north, on section 28. We have had the pleasure of seeing this property, and must say that when the fine house and barn and its beautiful surroundings are considered, together with the beautiful laying land, and under such prime cultivation, with fine looking crops, that it is not only one of the finest farms and homes in the State, but one of the grandest that it has ever been our privilege to behold. He raises about forty acres of wheat, forty-five acres of corn, and thirty-nine of oats, and cuts from fifty to sixty tons of hay. Keeps from thirty to forty head of cattle and about one hundred head of hogs, and seven head of horses. Was married in Wisconsin, Jan. 10, 1861, to Miss Ustina Spicker, a native of Germany. They have five children—Mary, Henry, Frank, Lena and Benjamin. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moll are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Moll is politically a Republican.

*H. H. Myers* was born in Orange County, N. Y., in 1843, where he made his home till he was twenty-one years of age. At this date he started West to see what it promised; spent the year 1864 in Michigan and Wisconsin. In 1865 he purchased eighty acres on section 32, Ulster Township, where he has since resided. Of this eighty he sold forty acres, and purchased eighty more on section 29. In the year 1867, at Rockford, Mr. Myers and Miss Emma J. Piatt were united in marriage. She was a native of Otsego County, N. Y., born there in 1849. They have a family of four children—John G., Nellie A., Maud A. and Jerome P. Both Mr. and Mrs. Myers are members of the Congregational society of

Ulster Township. He is a good sound Republican, but says he likes farming better than politics.

*T. Pippin* was born in Shelby, Chittenden County, Vt., in 1845. He is a son of Joseph and Matilda Pippin, both natives of Canada, and emigrated to Vermont about the year 1837 or 1838. Here Mr. Pippin remained till his death, which occurred in 1879, in the month of September. His widow still resides in Chittenden County. At the age of seventeen, T. Pippin, the subject of this sketch, enlisted in Company D, Tenth Vermont Volunteers, July 23, 1862; served his country till July 4, 1865, when he was discharged. He was in thirteen general engagements, as follows: Locust Grove, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Tolopitamy Creek, Cold Harbor and Petersburg, Va.; Monocacy, Md.; Opequon Creek, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, capture of Petersburg, and Sailor's Creek, Va. His principal marches were: October, 1863, when Lee drove the army from Culpepper, Va., to Washington; the march through the Wilderness, and the marches of Sheridan. The last march was to Appomattox, at the capture of General Lee. Mr. Pippin was one of the profitable soldiers; he was always on duty with the exception of a week he was in a hospital with typhoid fever; was never taken prisoner nor wounded; was hit with a spent ball from a spherical case, but received no injury. After his return from the army he went to California, remaining one summer, engaging in the dairy business. In the fall he went to Silver City, Nev. Here he remained three years and a half, working in the quartz mills. In April, 1870, he returned to Shelby, Vt., where he remained only about four months, when he went to Columbia County, Wis., where he purchased ninety acres of land, and farmed about two years, when he sold his farm and returned to Silver City, Nev., and worked three years and a half in the quartz mills. Then he went to Iowa in search of a home, and settled in Floyd County, purchasing ninety acres on section 7, Ulster Township; now owns 100 acres. This year he has in corn thirty acres; oats, eight acres. Has in a crop on an adjoining 160 acres belonging to Mrs. Mary Wright, oats, fifty; wheat, twelve, and corn, fifty acres. His stock consists of eight cows, ten head of young cattle, and four horses. Aug. 15, 1870, in Burlington, Vt., he and Miss Julia Edwards were united in marriage. She is a native of Vermont. Their family consists of two children—Agnes and Florence. Mr. Pippin is a sound Republican, but holds a lively contempt for office.

*B. F. Porter, Jr.*, was born in New York in 1850. At the age of sixteen he came with his father, B. F. Porter, Sr., to Iowa, and located in Floyd County, St. Charles Township, where he still resides. In the year 1876, B. F. Porter, Jr., purchased the farm of eighty acres, where he still resides, on section 36, Ulster Township. Has made all the improvements, which are many; has planted fruit and shade trees, and built himself a good house. Mr. Porter was married in 1871 to Miss Joana M. Hunter, a native of New York State. They have three children — Geneva, Nellie and Ralph.

*M. Prall* was born in Allegany County, N. Y., in 1831; made that State his home till thirteen years of age, when he moved with his father, Edward Prall, to Pennsylvania, where he lived eighteen years, when he moved to Wisconsin, where he spent about one year. From here he went to Minnesota, and remained three years, engaged in farming 160 acres which he had purchased. In 1860 he sold this farm and moved to Nebraska, and remained nine months, when he went to Howard County, Ia., and farmed three years. At the expiration of this time he went again to Wisconsin, remained eighteen months and returned to Iowa, locating at Winneshiek County, where he bought forty acres, and farmed nearly two years. In 1868 he became a citizen of Floyd County, purchasing 160 acres on sections 23 and 27, Ulster Township, where he still lives. Of this farm and home we can but say that it is indeed beautifully located and situated, being in full view of the M. & St. P. R. R., five and a half miles from Floyd, and four from Rudd, and only eight from the county seat. Has his farm all under a fine state of cultivation; has usually in crop about 100 acres. Keeps about fifteen head of cattle and forty-five head of hogs, and seven head of horses. He was married in 1857 to Mary Raymond, a native of Vermont. They have two children — Eliza Jane and Clinton Edward, ages twenty-four and eighteen respectively. Of Mr. Prall we are pleased to say that we find him a very pleasant man, enjoying life, and the owner of one of Floyd County's good farms, as every early settler deserves.

*William Roschen* was born in Germany, July 10, 1846; came to America in 1865, stopping in New York City the first six years; was engaged at the carpenter's trade five years, working the most of the time in factories. The sixth year he studied veterinary surgery. In 1871 he became a citizen of Floyd County. Since coming here he has been engaged in buying and improving farms;

has owned some eleven farms in all. In 1875 he bought eighty acres on section 28. Built a nice house in 1874, which was destroyed by fire in 1879. He immediately rebuilt, placing a fine house upon the ruins of the old one. Has just completed a splendid barn. Has beautified his surroundings with shade and fruit trees and flowers, till now he has one of the finest farms and pleasantest homes in the county. In the city of New York, in 1867, he and Miss Mattie Hanins were united in marriage. They have two children — Rebecca and Martha. Both Mr. and Mrs. Roschen are members of the Lutheran church. At this writing we find Mr. Roschen engaged in the building of a large barn for his neighbor, Zwack. Most of his time is engaged as a carpenter. He is the veterinary doctor of the township.

*James Roberts* was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., Sansburg Township, April 15, 1832. Till about twenty-five years of age he made his home with his father, Thomas Roberts, who was engaged in the lumbering business principally. In the year 1857 James Roberts went to Wausan, Wis., where he engaged in the lumber business about two years. At the expiration of this time he went to Ripon, Wis., where he engaged in farming, remaining about six years. At this date he became a citizen of Charles City remaining about one year, engaged in farming. At the expiration of this time he purchased 130 acres for \$10 per acre on section 32, Ulster Township, where he still resides; has since added to his farm till he now owns 240 acres, all under good cultivation, and one of the good farms of Floyd County. June 7, 1862, Mr. Roberts and Miss Louisa Shafer were united in marriage. They have a family of six children, four sons and two daughters. Both Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are members of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Republican.

*William Schunemann* was born in Germany in 1832. In 1862 he came to America stopping five years in Lowell, Wis., where he bought a small farm. Afterward bought a farm near Columbus, Wis., and lived six years. In 1873 he became a citizen of Floyd County. Bought a farm of eighty acres where he still resides on section 17, Ulster Township. In 1877 he bought eighty acres on section 8, same township. In 1880 he built himself a nice residence, etc. Put out the first year twenty-five acres of wheat, sixty-six acres of corn, twenty-three acres of oats, and twenty of hay; has five horses, twenty-four head of cattle, and fifty-four hogs. In Germany, in 1858, he married Augusta Koehler.

They have four children living—Augusta, Lizzie, Amelia and Mary; lost two sons, ages seven and four, in 1877—Freddie and Henry. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schunemann are members of the Methodist church.

*H. E. Stout* was born in Centre County, Penn., in 1836. He is a son of John and Sarah (Kryder) Stout, natives of Pennsylvania. In 1848 Mr. Stout, in company with his parents, moved to Stephenson County, Ill., near Freeport, where he purchased a farm and resided until his death, which occurred February, 1881. Mrs. Stout still makes the old homestead her home. After going to Illinois H. E. Stout attended school at Rock River Seminary five terms. Afterward engaged in teaching town and district schools. Mr. Stout has been a teacher more or less for the last thirty years, and now returns to Illinois each winter and teaches school. While in Freeport he engaged as clerk in a dry-goods store; here he remained two years. This avocation he abandoned on account of his health and came to Iowa and located upon a farm in Ulster Township, section 5, which he had bought in 1857, paying \$3.75. He has eighty acres with sixty under cultivation, fifteen of it being wheat, thirty corn, and oats fifteen; cuts about nine acres of hay. In the State of Illinois, in the year 1871, he and Miss Louisa M. Lawrence were united in marriage. She was born in Germany, 1851. They have two children—Lilian May and Kittie Genevieve, ages ten and two respectively, both born in Illinois. Politically he is a sound Douglas Democrat.

*A. H. Strong* was born in Delaware County, N. Y., in 1829. At about the age of twenty-four he went to Ogle County, Ill., where he remained four years, engaged in a general jobbing business, such as groceries, butchering, etc. At the expiration of this time he went to Charles City, Floyd County, Iowa; here he remained about ten years, engaged in farming principally. At this date he moved to Ulster Township and purchased eighty acres of Floyd County's good land in Ulster Township, section 36, where he still resides, engaged in stock-raising and farming. In 1851 he and Miss Hannah A. Judson were united in marriage. Their family consists of five children—Charter Adelbert, Fred E., Cora M., Charles Dwight and Otho.

*Charles Vietmeier* was born in Germany in 1841. In 1868 he came to America, locating first in Illinois, where he worked as a farm hand eleven months. At the expiration of this time he came to Floyd County and purchased eighty acres of land in Ulster Town-

ship, where he still resides. Has since added to his purchase eighty acres, and ten acres of timber. For the first he paid \$7.00, for last \$12.50 per acre. He started from the lowest round in the ladder, and has, by his own exertion, wrung from the hard hand of toil one of the finest farms in Iowa, all under first-class cultivation and improvement. He is to build a fine house the coming year; has always thought mixed farming the most profitable. An item worthy of mention here is, that when he purchased his last eighty he kept a perfect account of its cost, interest and expense of family one year. He raised from it 2,000 bushels of wheat, and came within \$20 of paying for itself and paying all expenses. This year he has in corn, seventy acres; rye, twenty; wheat, eight; oats, eighteen; timothy, eight; balance, pasture land. Has eight cows, ten young cattle, five horses and two colts, and seventy head of hogs. In 1869 Mr. Vietmeier and Wilhelmena Koerner were united in marriage. The family consists of six children—Lydia, Anna, Louis, Laura, William and Minnie. Both Mr. and Mrs. Vietmeier are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. When Mr. Vietmeier came here, he, in company with some others, organized a Sunday-school of five members, which has now grown to about ninety, and the church, whose number was then only about four or five members, has grown to about 130 or 140. Mr. Vietmeier has frequently held the position of School Director and Supervisor.

*J. G. Wiggins* was born in Maine, Oct. 6, 1814. Here he received a common-school education when a young man; also learned the carpenter's trade, which avocation, in connection with farming, he pursued till he was about forty-three years of age. He made his home with his parents, and managed the home farm for them, and cared for their welfare during their life-time. His mother died about the year 1841, and his father in the year 1852. His parents' names were Asa and Abigail. In 1857 Mr. Wiggins came to Iowa, locating in Winneshiek County, where he bought 181 acres, and farmed seventeen years. In 1874 he became a citizen of Floyd County. He purchased, the same year, 180 acres in Ulster Township, where he still resides. This was prairie land, and cost \$2,800. He has since brought it all under cultivation except thirty acres, which he keeps for grass land. In 1878 he built the finest residence in the township; there are few, if any, better in the county. His premises are beautified with symmetrically planted shade and forest trees, and he has indeed a pleasant Western home. Mr. Wiggins's age forbids his wroking very much



himself, but the farm's interests are well looked after by his son, R. C. Wiggins. In Maine, in the year 1843, April 12, Mr. J. G. Wiggins and Miss Ann H. Morrill were united in marriage. She was also a native of Maine, being born Dec. 24, 1820. Their family consists of three children—Henry C., now thirty-eight years of age, married Miss Sarah Jane Demry, and resid in Ulster Township; Fredric M., twenty-seven years of age, married Jennie Prall, and resides also in Ulster Township; R. C., twenty-five years of age, married Carrie Wyman. Mrs. J. G. Wiggins died July 25, 1880. She was a member of the M. E. church for twenty years prior to her death. Mr. Wiggins and his three sons are all Republicans.

*John Witzel* was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1841; came to America in 1855, with his father, Christopher Witzel, who located in Wisconsin, where he remained till his death, which occurred only two or three years after his arrival. Here the family remained several years, and Mrs. Witzel made it her home till 1879, when she came to Floyd County, Iowa, and made her home with her son John till her death in 1879. Mr. John Witzel became a citizen of the county in 1869, and worked land on the shares the first six years. In 1875 he purchased eighty acres of prairie land on section 28, Ulster Township, where he still resides. This he broke up and has now under a fine state of cultivation. In 1877 he bought twenty-four acres of timber land in Floyd Township. Mr. Witzel was married in Wisconsin in 1869, to Miss Minnie Anding, a native of Germany. They have six children—Lena, Clara, Minnie, Ella, Eddy, and an infant son not yet named. Both Mr. and Mrs. Witzel are members of the M. E. church. Politically he is a Republican; cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln.

*Carl Woelfer* was born in Germany, Kingdom of Prussia, Province of Saxony, in the year 1841. He came to America in 1870, stopping first in Anrora, Ill., and worked in a railroad shop about nine months; he afterward worked as a farm hand about three years. In 1874 he came to Floyd County and worked in Nora Springs about a year as a farm hand. At the expiration of this time he moved upon his farm, where he now resides, on section 18, Ulster Township. In 1873 he built an addition to the house already on the place. The farm consists of something over eighty acres, and is one of Floyd County's good farms. In 1878 he purchased eighty acres of land on section 17, Ulster Township, which is also under good cultivation; has in a crop of thirty acres of

wheat, twenty-four of oats, sixty-two of corn, twelve of hay, and twenty-six acres in pasture; has seven head of horses, twenty-one head of cattle, and seventy-five head of hogs. Indeed we can say he is one of the strong and successful farmers of the county. April 3, 1875, in Floyd County, he and Miss Minna Sann were united in marriage. They have a family of seven children—William, Carl, Fredic, Albert, Oscar, Huldah, and Minna. Both Mr. and Mrs. Woelfer are members of the Methodist church. He is a Republican, and has for the last three years been a School Director.

*Mrs. Eliza R. Young* was born in Scotland in 1827, and married Mr. Charles Young in Scotland in 1850; came to the United States the same year, locating first in Wisconsin, where they remained till 1875. In the year 1861 Mr. Young died, leaving a family of four children—Frank, who is in the lumber regions in Minnesota; Archibald R., in Fargo, D. T., working in a grist-mill; Charles B., working at Orlando McEwen's; William, who makes his home with his mother. In 1874 Mrs. Young bought forty acres of land in Ulster Township, section 33. They have put in crop this year thirteen acres of corn; have raised seventeen acres of oats.



## UNION TOWNSHIP.

Union Township lies east of Scott, south of Ulster, west of Pleasant Grove and on the north line of Butler County. It is six miles from the east to the west line, and seven miles from the north line to the south line of the county,—containing nearly forty-two sections of land. Its settlements are among the oldest in Floyd County, and its natural advantages are equal to those of any other township among her eleven enterprising sisters.

### DRAINAGE.

The Shell Rock River, called by the Indians “Dashonaugh,” or “Neshonagatan,” signifying “Otter River,” enters the township about a mile and a half south of its northwestern corner, and runs in a southeasterly direction, leaving the township about two miles west of its southeastern corner. Along this stream in Union Township are several water-powers, one of which is substantially improved by the construction of a flood-defying dam and a spacious flouring mill.

Flood Creek, which, when once aroused, is large enough to float “a man of iron,” enters the township about two miles from its northeast corner, and zigzags its way out about four miles below, on its eastern line.

### STONE.

There are in Union Township several quarries of stone of superior excellence, which quarries when well worked will be a great benefit to their fortunate owners. Among the most valuable of these quarries is one owned by Warren Boon, and which is already famous for its choice qualities and its splendid layers of granite.

It was opened by Mr. T. W. Boon, in 1874. It is situated on the east bank of the Shell Rock River, about three quarters of a mile northwest of Marble Rock. The jutting rock along the bank gave evidence of good rock. The land was owned by a man who held it at a high price, and would not open it himself. But about four years after the railroad came through Marble Rock, Mr. Boon

was able to purchase twenty-two acres, and has since purchased eighteen acres, making a tract of land of forty acres, all of which is underlayed with splendid rock. From an analysis made by the United States Geologist, he pronounces it a species of granite, with a small per cent. of lime and sand. This embraces the upper strata, which is about thirty-two feet deep. Below this is a strata of fine sandstone, probably twelve feet deep above water. The upper strata admits of rock being taken out 16 x 26 feet, while the sandstone is without seams and can be taken out at any desired size, running from ten to thirty-two inches in thickness, the upper strata being the same depth in thickness. This quarry is worked the whole year, taking out as high as 1,000 yards a year; employs from fifteen to twenty hands and from six to seven teams. Shipping as far as Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, and ships cutting rock as far as 160 miles away. This business amounts to from \$3,000 to \$5,000. The beauty of this quarry is its easy access, besides its very fine quality of material. His orders are principally for bridges and fine buildings. Is now filling an order for cut stone to be used in the court-house at Clarksville.

Stone is also found in large quantities and good qualities at convenient distances along the bank of the Shell Rock River.

#### TIMBER.

Union has about four sections covered with timber, the main body of which lies on the Shell Rock River, beginning at Marble Rock and extending up the stream on either side, a distance of about three miles. This is known as Beelar's Grove, an appellation it has borne since the first settler, Jacob Beelar, located his claim amid its inviting forests. It contains all the varieties of timber found in the county, and was once a magnificent forest, but is now being rapidly cleared away. In the northeast corner of the township, and along the banks of Flood Creek, is another grove of timber covering about one section of land. The remainder of the township is prairie land of the choicest quality.

#### RAILROADS.

Union Township has one railroad. The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway crosses her boundary line one mile west from the southeast corner, and runs on a straight line for eight miles, leaving the township a half a mile east of the north-

west corner. This railroad was built through here in 1871, and cost Union a tax of five per cent. on all assessable property. The amount thus levied was \$9,380; private donations amounted to \$20,000; and the depot grounds, which were donated, were valued at \$600; making the total contribution \$29,980. See chapter on Railroads.

#### BRIDGES.

In January, 1869, the first bridge that ever spanned the Shell Rock in Union Township was completed at Marble Rock. The builder was A. Spaulding, of Cedar Falls. The length was 210 feet in a single span. It was a Howe truss bridge, of wood, and the contract price was \$5,400. In February, 1875, this bridge was condemned by the Board of Supervisors, and in the summer of 1876 they erected at the same site an iron bridge. The work was done by the Canton Bridge Company, of Canton, Ohio. The bridge is composed of two spans, each of which is 122½ feet in length, and which rest on a stone pier, substantially planted in the center of the river bed.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The historical era of Marble Rock and Union Township begins in 1850. The rolling prairie, the undulating hills, and the clear stream of flowing water, touched the sympathy and awakened the hopes of the pioneer hunters and trappers, who kept a little in advance of the westward moving civilization. Jacob Beelar, a native of East Tennessee, was one of those conquered by the strength of nature's wiles, and in the spring of the year mentioned his bright ax caused echoes through the woods; and his log cabin, the first house in the vicinity, was soon raised. The name then given to the place was "Beelar's Grove."

In March, 1851, Mr. Beelar's family arrived, nine in number, including parents. Charles is still with us; the others are scattered over the earth.

The same spring Mr. Beelar did the first breaking of ground in the township.

The nearest neighbors at this time were resident at what was termed "Coon's Grove," at the mouth of Flood Creek, and at a distance of twelve miles in a southeasterly direction. At Clear Lake the Beelar family had staunch friends, in the persons of Messrs. Dickerson and Hewitt, who were distant about a two days' journey.

In 1852 Jacob Beelar entered the land upon which the present town is situated, and other pioneers began to appreciate the beauty of the location. In 1852 Mr. Inman erected a log house, which still stands, about eighty rods northeast of the town center. This gentleman sold out to Mr. Baltimore, who, in turn, disposed of the property to Levi Halstead, whose widow is the present occupant. In 1853 Samuel Beelar laid claim to land and "broke" twenty acres of it. The Baltimore above spoken of jumped the claim, causing the first disturbance in the settlement. Baltimore eventually paid \$50 indemnity and the matter became a memory of the past.

The hardships of these pioneers can be better appreciated when it is stated that the nearest grist-mill was located at Cedar Falls, a distance of forty miles. To visit it required a three days' journey over fearfully rugged roads. The postoffice visit was quite an important and difficult one to make, it being thirty miles remote, at Waverly.

The usual stopping-place for the teamsters on these journeys was at Coon's Grove, and there the settlers would meet and in friendly chat exchange the latest bit of news, and speak of the affairs of the world, which then had passed the nine days' wonder. The settlement, in 1855, received three acquisitions to its strength in the persons of Ralph Horr, John Gates and William Ackley. In the same year one Corey erected a double log shanty and established the first store, with a stock of goods sufficient to meet the frugal wants of the settlers.

A school was opened in this building during the following winter. The teacher was a Mr. Worsfield. About a dozen pupils attended his school, some of them being bearded men. This first school continued two weeks, and then closed its first term. In 1856, and before more settlers came, another school was instituted, with Sam Sours as teacher. He is said to have been a popular man and an able instructor.

The first School Treasurer was Ambrose Smith, who held the office for several years; then Rudolph Rex, until 1865, and then John Gates, to the present time.

In 1856 came a number of new settlers, among them the Wallace, Rex, Asper, Clay, Judd and Schermerhorn families, and the village began to prosper. The outlook became still more encourag-

ing, when later such men as H. Rosenkrans came and contributed their energy, culture and means to the development of the settlement.

The first court was held before Esquire Shattuck. The prisoner, who had shown his patriotism by fighting on the 4th of July, was complained of, as a pre-concerted movement, by Judge Johnson, and let off with a small fine. The following day he was re-arrested and taken before Esquire Frost, in Aureola, where Judge Johnson non-suited the prosecution by his first complaint and trial.

The early settlers were very social, frequently passing the evenings in dancing, singing, or in games. Every man's home was hospitably open to whoever came. In 1858 a great revival was held by Rev. Mr. Holbrook, a pioneer Methodist preacher, and almost the entire settlement was converted to the Methodist faith.

Some good stories are told of Rev. James Hankins, an itinerant preacher, who occasionally visited this settlement before the war. Hankins was very muscular, and a militant Christian, and when playing cards and snickering and other disturbances in meeting became oppressive, he subdued the rebels physically. He used to enter town giving forth hymns in a musical voice, and this vocal power answered the purpose of a bell. All flocked to hear the singing, the result being a large congregation. It so happened that, during the prayer of Judge Rosencrantz (no relative to the present Rosenkrans family), considerable noise emanated from the euchre corner, with such expressions as "Pray on, Judge, I'll go down among the sinners." Mr. Hankins promptly began to take steps toward quelling the disturbance. This action caused talk, and considerable braggadocio was manifested. It was threatened that the "preacher was going to get licked." Hearing of the intention of the "great unwashed," Hankins took him by the forelock and caused a few of the braggarts ever after to have a high respect for the preacher's muscle. The meetings had been constantly interrupted, more especially after the arrest of a boy whose case came to trial, with Gen. Trumbull, then an attorney at Clarksville, for the defense. He made an eloquent plea, the boy was acquitted, and the roughs became still more obstreperous, causing Hankins to adopt the use of his muscle as the last means of restoring the peace.

The citizens of Union Township were zealously loyal during the war. A Union League was organized, and was very active. The services of that organization were needed. Disguised rebels and

sympatizers came in every shape. As preachers they soon showed their colors in prayer, and the religious found themselves listening to messages to heaven, beseeching that "even the Union Government should not be heeded by the people" in protecting their hearts and homes. The reverend wolves were visited by members of the league and made to retract their supplications or vacate the ranch. They retracted, and were then compelled to take the oath of allegiance. Union Township answered every call for volunteers, and supplied even more than her quota of men.

## ORGANIC.

On the 4th of September, 1854, Judge John M. Hunt divided the county into four townships, among which was that of Union, which then comprised congressional townships 94 and 95, range 17, and townships 94 and 95, range 18. July 21, 1855, the west half of township 94 north, range 16, and sections 29, 30, 31 and 32 in township 95, in range 16, were detached from the territory embraced in St. Charles Township and attached to Union by John Ball, then County Judge. March 25, 1856, sections 29, 30, 31 and 32, in township 95, range 16, were detached from Union Township and once more became a part of the township of St. Charles. A. L. Collins was then County Judge. March 2, 1857, congressional townships 95, ranges 17 and 18, were detached from Union and called Rockford, by Judge A. L. Collins. June 12, 1858, section 26 was set off from Rockford to Union for "election purposes," by Judge David Ripley. The Board of Supervisors at their June session, 1861, detached township 94 from Union and the south tier of sections from Rockford, and gave to the detached territory the name of Scott. At the June session, 1867, of the Board of Supervisors, the west half of township 94, range 16, was detached from Union and was united with the east half of the same township, receiving the name of Pleasant Grove Township.

The following is the first record in the township minute books :

"Pursuant to public notice, the electors of Union Township met March 28, 1855, at the house of Jacob Beelar for the purpose of choosing delegates to meet at the house of John Ball, on Thursday, March 29, 1855. On motion, Nelson Shattuck was called to the chair, and T. W. Allen was chosen clerk. On motion of Thomas Conner, a committee, consisting of Thomas Conner, Jacob Beelar and Peter Beaver, was appointed to present suitable names



to the meeting. This committee recommended Peter Weaver, T. W. Allen, Thomas Conner and Nelson Shattuck." These were elected and served as delegates to the meeting above mentioned.

The present township officers are: Trustees, Charles T. Ackley, George Lines, Samuel Sours; Clerk, Charles E. Wood; Assessor, Harvey C. Inman; Road Supervisor, District No. 1, Matthias Nixt; No. 2, Peter N. Vorhes; No. 3, Hezekiah Garber; No. 4, Alouzo Inman; No. 5, John Barth; No. 6, Abraham Palmateer; No. 7, Charles W. Bowman; Justices of the Peace, John Gates, C. F. Beelar; Constables, Samuel Rex, Philip Schultz.

Union Township has been liberally represented in the list of county officials of Floyd. Thomas Conner was elected Prosecuting Attorney in 1854, but failed to qualify. J. P. Johnson was chosen County Coroner in the same year. Rudolph Rex was elected County Supervisor in 1862. Benjamin Darland was elected County Supervisor in 1863. Henry Wady was elected County Supervisor in 1865. J. B. Shepardson was elected County Supervisor in 1868. William H. Johnson was chosen County Judge in 1860. L. S. Horr was elected Sheriff in 1866-'7. Isaac Teeple was chosen County Surveyor in 1868. The same office was held by H. C. Inman in 1863 and 1865. John Wallace was County Coroner in 1863 and 1865. Benjamin Darland was a Representative in the General Assembly of Iowa during 1874 and 1875. Immediately following him in the same office was J. B. Shepardson, in 1876 and 1877. George H. Nichols was elected County Superintendent of Schools in 1877, and held the office four years. He was succeeded by the present incumbent, H. H. Davidson, who was elected Oct. 11, 1881.

#### SCHOOLS.

The Union Township District is one of the oldest in the county, having had an organized and continuous existence for nearly twenty-five years. There has been no independent district organized from it, Marble Rock being still a part of the township district. The first records on the books are of a meeting held May 22, 1858. The proceedings are given in full, as an item of interest:

"The board of school officers for Union Township District met pursuant to notice May 22, 1858, at the usual place of holding elections in Marble Rock, and organized according to law, and proceeded to business.

"On motion the meeting adjourned one hour for dinner.

"The board met at two o'clock, pursuant to adjournment, and again proceeded to business. [It is said by some that here the board 'on motion adjourned one hour for *supper*,' but we cannot vouch for this, the secretary having made no record of the fact.]

"On motion, A. Bashford was appointed to fill vacancy occasioned by the failure of District No. 2 to elect a resident of said sub-district for the office of local director.

"A resolution was passed to the effect that the board of school directors of Union Township authorize the local director of Sub-district No. 3 to use the school in said sub-district for a select school under the supervision of the local director.

"On motion the secretary was authorized to procure the boundaries of each sub-district preparatory to sketching a map or plat of Union Township District.

"On motion adjourned.

J. R. MAHIN, *Sec.*"

The office of President of the School Board has been filled as follows: 1858-'59, Loren Inman; 1859-'60, J. R. Frost; 1860, Loren Inman; 1862, L. G. Hiscox; 1863, David Comstock; 1864, L. G. Hiscox; 1865-'66, William A. Judd; 1867, John Gates; 1868, Thomas Elley; 1869, Wm. H. Johnson; 1870, A. Gleason; 1871-'72, J. W. Darland; 1873, H. Rosenkrans; 1874, Wm. J. Little; 1875-'78, H. Rosenkrans; 1879, W. Bucklin; 1880, George Maxson; 1881, Martin Gates; 1882, Job Randall.

The office of Secretary of the School Board has been filled as follows: 1858-'59, H. C. Inman; 1859-'60, W. Brubacher; 1860-'61, William H. Johnson; 1862-'63, A. J. Asper; 1864-'78, H. C. Inman; 1879, C. B. Martin; 1880-'81, Charles Gates, Jr.; 1882, Henry B. Nies.

There are ten sub-districts in Union Township, and their Directors for the present year are as follows: 1, R. S. Vorhes; 2, M. Nixt; 3, H. Rosenkrans; 4, A. W. Hawks; 5, C. Town; 6, Charles Gates, Sr.; 7, John Gates; 8, Job Randall; 9, F. C. Sellman. All the districts have at least one school each. No. 4 has two schools; and No. 3, which comprises Marble Rock, has three departments, or schools, in the same building.

The first school-house erected in Union Township was built in 1857, on lot 3, block 8, section 9. This was in Marble Rock, now known as District No. 3. The school-house built in District No. 1 was erected in 1872, on section 4, at a cost of \$500. That in No. 2 was built in 1858, at the corner of sections 1, 2, 11

and 12, at a cost of \$400. The first school-house in No. 4 was erected in 1860, of stone, on section 8, at a cost of \$1,600. Another one has since been built in the same district, at a cost of \$500. The school-house in No. 5 was built in 1872, at a cost of \$500, on section 20. That in District No. 6 was built of wood on section 33, in 1872, at a cost of \$500. That in No. 7 was built in 1871, on section 22, at a cost of \$500. That in No. 8 was built in August, 1879, at a cost of \$500, on section 31. That in No. 9 was built in 1872, at a cost of \$500, on the corner of sections 25, 26, 35 and 36.

In 1873 the village of Marble Rock (District No. 3) erected an elegant school-house near the southeast corner of the village plat. The dimensions of the building are 26 x 46, with wings 22 x 26, two stories high. It has a cupola, bell, spacious apartments and all the modern equipments of a well-furnished educational institution, where all branches, from the rudiments to the grade of a high-school, are successfully taught. This building cost \$4,000, and will accommodate 200 students. The Principal of the school for 1882-'3 is C. F. Gates.

#### FIRST THINGS.

The first house erected in Union was constructed of logs, by Jacob Beelar, in 1852, on the southwest corner of section 8.

The first ground used for agricultural purposes was broken by Jacob Beelar, on the northwest quarter of section 16, in the summer of 1852, and by Ashbury Baltimore, in 1853, on the southwest quarter of section 5.

The first store was one of small dimensions on block 1, of the village of Marble Rock, opened by Alanson W. Corey, in the winter of 1855-'6. He afterward removed his store to section 6, when the first store of general merchandise was started at Marble Rock, in 1857, by John Wallace and William A. Judd. The first drug store was opened on Main street, in 1870, by Messrs. Clark and Martin.

The first marriage was that of Jacob Beelar to Huldah Downer, June 2, 1855.

The first deaths was those of J. J. Riddell and S. O. Riddell, killed by lightning while in bed, June 19, 1855, two and three quarters miles west of Marble Rock.

The first mill for flouring purposes was built in 1858-'9. The first saw-mill was built by Robert Frost, in 1874. The first steam saw-mill was that run by Hershey, Brubacher and Wells, of Waverly, and was situated west of block 15, in Marble Rock. It was built in 1856-'7.

The first church was built in 1873-'4.

The first school-house was built in 1857 on block 8, in Marble Rock, by R. C. Horr, Benjamin Darland and W. Brubacher as Directors.

The first school was taught in this school-house in the winter of 1855-'6.

The first bounty on wolf scalps paid to a citizen of Union was to R. J. Ackley, in March, 1859.

The first bounty on wild-cats was paid to A. Baltimore in the month of March, 1859.

The first organization of the Republican party was effected at Marble Rock, Feb. 17, 1860, with Benjamin Darland as President, and Isaac Yeople as Secretary. The constitution and by-laws were signed by Isaac Yeople, H. C. Inman, John Wallace, W. Brubacher, Samuel Fulson, Benjamin Darland, R. C. Horr, J. J. R. Frost, William Halstead, L. D. Gardner, John Gates, J. T. Graham, L. S. Horr, William Hawks, J. L. Bedell, M. J. Miller, Charles Peet, Martin Gates, Nelson Shattuck, Charles Gates, Samuel Rex, John Clay, W. H. Christeance.

#### UNION TOWNSHIP IN THE WAR.

Union Township responded nobly to the calls of the Government in the late Rebellion. Her quota was always full, and when the draft was ordered, Feb. 4, 1864, she was seven men ahead. When it became apparent that the rebels were in earnest and meant war for the white man, and eternal bondage for the negro, the citizens of Union rallied and assembled in mass meeting at Marble Rock, April 29, 1861. Rev. John Kane was called to the chair, and William H. Johnson was chosen Secretary. After appropriate speeches, David Brubacher, B. Franklin Darland, Jesse Beelar, Mark J. Miller, Abraham Brubacher, A. Wolsey Hawks and William Bedell resolutely stepped forward and repeated and subscribed to the following oath:

"We do solemnly swear that we will bear true and faithful allegiance to the United States of America; that we will serve them faithfully and honestly against all opposers whomsoever; that

we will obey and observe the orders of the President of the United States, the Governor of Iowa, and all officers duly elected or appointed to command us."

These volunteers were attached to the Third Iowa Infantry.

The second band who enlisted from Union consisted of Samuel Fulsom, Egbert Hawks, Everett Hawks, Samuel Sours, A. J. Asper, S. J. Ackley, C. T. Ackley, George Cornelia and J. I. R. Frost, who went into the Seventh Iowa Infantry. Job Clark and Hiram Clay went into the Seventh Iowa Infantry. Warren Boon, S. W. Boon, James W. Boon, Milton Boon, Timothy W. Folger, A. D. Weeks, Joseph Smith, Henry Smith, Horace Hawks, Tyler Blake, Elias Miller and Michael Cline went into the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry. William F. Bedell, Daniel R. Hiscox and Abram Judd went into the Twelfth United States Regulars. Jos. L. Inman and C. E. Wood went into the Thirteenth United States Regulars. J. L. Baker, Abram Johnson and J. R. McNabb went into the Fourth Iowa Cavalry. J. W. Darland went into an Illinois artillery company, and S. S. Boon into an Illinois cavalry regiment.

A. A. Hawks was wounded; Hiram Bedell was killed; M. J. Miller was imprisoned at Andersonville; B. F. Darland was killed; Everett Hawks was killed; George Cornelia died; James Boon died; Milton Boon died; T. W. Folger was killed; A. D. Weeks died; Joseph Smith died; Elias Miller died, and Joseph L. Inman died.

#### AUREOLA.

The village of Aureola was laid out and recorded by Robert Frost in 1858, who built a saw-mill here. It contains about 100 acres in the south half of section 8, on the west bank of the Shell Rock River, about a mile above Marble Rock. Owing to a bend in the river the streets run northeasterly and southwesterly. Aureola is distant about a half mile from Marble Rock. A store was opened by A. J. Asper in 1865, and kept by him for about two years. J. W. Darland also opened a store there in 1867, and continued in business about two years. Both these gentlemen are now in business at Marble Rock. There have been no other stores in Aureola since 1869, in which year the plat was vacated. Aureola had in 1880 a population of eighty-eight.

#### AUREOLA MILL.

This mill was built by Tyler Blake in 1860. It is on the west side of the Shell Rock, on section 8. It was built for two run of

stone, but now has three, the last having been added by Mr. Shepardson. Mr. Blake sold out, after operating the mill for four years, to H. C. Inman and Robert Frost. Mr. Blake went from here to Nora Springs, and in 1880 he went to Harper, Harper County, Kan., where he now resides, engaged in the drug business. Mr. Frost died, and Mr. Inman sold his interest to the executors of Mr. Frost's estate. They sold to J. B. Shepardson and J. M. Darland, the present proprietors. The mill is valued at \$4,000.

#### MARBLE ROCK.

The village plat of Marble Rock was laid out in October, 1856, and recorded the same year. Jacob Beelar was the proprietor. It is situated in the southwest corner of section 9, northwest corner of section 16, and northeast corner of section 17, in congressional township 94 north, range 17 west of the fifth principal meridian, and contains about twenty acres. The village is in the south extremity of Beelar's Grove, on the east bank of the Shell Rock, toward which the surface of the ground gradually declines. It has a variety of stores and mechanical shops, a bank, printing office, and all the professions usually found in an enterprising village. The streets of the town are broad and dry. The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern Railroad runs at a convenient distance along the eastern border of the town, with commodious depot and warehouses at accessible points. The entire village rests on beds of rock excellent for building purposes, but lying too deep to be disturbed with profit until the numerous quarries which project from the river bank are more nearly exhausted. Protected from the winds and storms on the north, on the east by her beautiful groves; supplied with an abundance of pure water from numerous springs of marvelous volume; and with water-powers from one of the most magnificent rivers that ever coursed its way through Northern Iowa; surrounded with a superior farming country on every side; and alive with an industrious and intelligent people, Marble Rock is destined to be all that Jacob Beelar ever dreamed for the future of the town. The inhabitants of Union Township, like those of the entire county, are of a mixed class, the people having drifted here either from the New England States or from those intervening, and on or near the same parallels of latitude. There is, however, a strong German element in Union Township, among whom are found some of the most substantial farmers and most substantial citizens of the township. In a few years

more, the German and English elements will coalesce, and the questions then will be, not "Where did you come from?" but, "Where are you going?"—not "What are you?" but, "Who are you?"

#### INCORPORATION.

Marble Rock was incorporated in the early part of 1881, and town officers elected. The following were the proceedings of the council at their first meeting:

"MARBLE ROCK, March 14, 1881.

"Council met for the purpose of completing the organization of the incorporated town of Marble Rock, and proceeded to administer the oath of office to the elected officers.

"C. F. Beelar, a Justice of the Peace, administered the oath to J. W. Martin, as Mayor.

"J. W. Martin, Mayor, administered the oath of office to E. A. Rosenkrans, as Recorder.

"J. W. Martin, Mayor, administered the oath of office to the following Trustees: William Moore, Allen Moore, I. M. Hutches, John Robson, C. F. Beelar, and W. H. Ostrander.

"J. W. Martin, Mayor, administered the oath of office to C. E. Wood, as Assessor.

"The official bonds of J. W. Martin, E. A. Rosenkrans and C. E. Wood were presented and placed on file.

"The Trustees then proceeded to determine by lot their terms of office, which drawing resulted as follows: Allen Moore and William Moore, one year; John Robson and I. M. Hutches, two years; C. F. Beelar and W. H. Ostrander, three years.

"On motion, adjourned to meet at call of Mayor.

"E. A. ROSENKRANS, *Recorder.*"

The officers elected and appointed for Marble Rock during its two years of incorporated life are as follows:

1881.—Mayor, J. W. Martin; Trustees, Allen Moore, William Moore, John Robson, I. M. Hutches, C. F. Beelar, W. H. Ostrander; Street Commissioner, Levi Long; Marshals, T. W. Boon, John Melugin; Recorder, E. A. Rosenkrans; Treasurer, R. F. Wilke; Assessor, C. E. Wood.

1882.—Mayor, J. B. Shepardson; Trustees, John Robson, I. M. Hutches, C. F. Beelar, W. H. Ostrander, R. J. Ackley, Hiram Rosenkrans; Street Commissioner, E. A. Rosenkrans; Marshal, Samuel Rex; Recorder, L. B. Clark; Treasurer, Allen Moore; Assessor, C. E. Wood.

## POSTOFFICE.

The postoffice of Marble Rock was established about 1855. Previous to that time the nearest postoffice was Waverly, distant thirty miles southeast. Whoever went for his mail would get the mail for the whole settlement. The first Postmaster appointed under the administration of President Franklin Pierce was J. I. R. Frost. He was succeeded by William H. Johnson, and he by R. C. Horr. The next was J. B. Shepardson, who held the position but a short time, and was then succeeded by Allen Moore, who served a long time. The present Postmaster is C. E. Wood, appointed in the latter part of 1877, who took possession Jan. 1, 1878. He was also *actual* Postmaster from July 20, 1874, Allen Moore being the nominal head.

## BANK.

The Marble Rock Bank of J. B. Shepardson was established on its present location in the spring of 1873, by J. B. & S. E. Shepardson, and has not changed ownership since. Its business has steadily enlarged since that date, and it is now in a healthy condition. With ample capital at command, it forms a safe and reliable medium for the transaction of business for the surrounding country. The deposits amount to from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

## MARBLE ROCK ELEVATOR.

This elevator was first started in 1872, by Moore & Hoover, and three additions have been built since. It is situated on Bradford street, by the railroad. Messrs. Moore & Hoover operated it two years, selling in 1874 to I. M. Hutches & Co. They remained in the business until the spring of 1879, when they sold to Shepardson Bros. (J. B. Shepardson and S. E. Shepardson), the present proprietors. They deal in all kinds of grain and are doing a good business. The nearest elevators are at Rockford, eight miles, and Greene, seven miles, and the three are in sharp competition. Shepardson Bros. have introduced the latest and best machinery, including the patent dump for unloading corn wagons.

## MARBLE ROCK CREAMERY.

This was established in the month of May, 1882, by Messrs. Moody & Dilts. It is situated on the east side of the river, by the bridge. The firm is doing an excellent business, making during



the month of June, 8,100 pounds of butter, and during July, 9,600, which is shipped to New York. Water-power is used, furnished by a turbine wheel, eleven and a half inches in diameter. The water flows from a spring in the bank of the **Shell Rock**, and, with the turbine wheel, affords the nicest water-power possible for the work required of it.

#### BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

A. J. Asper & Co., druggists; S. P. Bissell, blacksmith; T. W. Boon, contractor; B. Boyd, shoemaker; Clark & Brown, physicians; Clark & Kindall, druggists; R. W. Clark, saloon-keeper; U. A. Collison & Co., wagon-makers; W. B. Crabtree, carpenter and builder; W. O. Crumb, confectioner; J. W. Darland, general merchant; J. C. Eade, general merchant; M. Gates & Son, hardware dealers; C. G. Greenwood, general merchant; Haines Bros., general merchants; E. B. Haines, physician; C. E. Heightshoe, milliner; G. M. Hubbard, barber; I. M. Hutches & Co., grain dealers; W. D. Lamb, proprietor Beelar House; Merrill & Lyon, liverymen; Moody & Dilts, creamerymen; Allen Moore, general merchant; Moore & Paddleford, lumber; H. B. Nies, editor *Weekly*; J. O'Hair, saloon-keeper; Rosenkrans & Rex, meat-sellers; E. A. Rosenkrans & Co., general merchant; Mrs. E. A. Rosenkrans, milliner; Hiram Rosenkrans, hardware; H. Scott & Co., grocers; J. B. Shepardson, banker; H. Stroud, pump dealer; M. S. Van Dusen, wagon-maker; G. L. Washburn, insurance agent; R. F. Wilke, boot and shoe dealer; J. Wiloth, harness-maker; C. E. Wood, Postmaster.

#### CHURCHES.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* was here, as is usually the case elsewhere, the pioneer religious organization of the country. The first services held by itinerant preachers have been mentioned on a previous page. Occasional services were held for nearly twenty years before an attempt was made to form a permanent organization, and to have regular services. There was a society in existence as early as 1858, which has had a more or less prosperous existence ever since. The Methodist church was built in 1873, at a cost of over \$2,000. The pastor at that time was Rev. Philip Gould. He was followed by Rev. Z. R. Ward, who came from Mason City, and remained one year. Then came Rev. Mr. Gillruth, for one year; Rev. Enoch Holland, three years; Rev. G. B. Shoemaker, two years; and Rev. D. E. Skinner, one year. The

present pastor is Rev. J. A. Brown, who resides at Greene, Butler County. The pastors have generally resided in that place. Services are held at Marble Rock on alternate Sabbaths. The membership of the church is small, being but twenty at the present time. The Sunday-school is a union school, formed of the pupils of the Methodist and Free-Will Baptist denominations. The Superintendent is H. C. Inman, and J. Hichtshoe is his assistant. The school is in fair condition, and has an attendance of from sixty to eighty. These are in seven classes.

*The Free-Will Baptist Church* was organized about 1858. Among the more prominent of the first members were Robert Frost, Loren Inman, Martin Ackley, James Ackley, Charles E. Wood, H. C. Inman, Caroline Inman, Mrs. James Ackley, O. T. Ackley, Mrs. Robert Frost, and William A. Judd and wife. The first pastor was Rev. Loren Inman, a resident of Union Township. He preached about seven years, and then ceased his pulpit work, living on his farm until his death, in 1878. The next pastor was Rev. R. Norton, who resided at Masonville, and preached here once in two weeks for two years. He is now preaching at Tripoli. He was followed by Rev. A. Palmer, who also preached about two years, on alternate Sabbaths. He did not reside here. He was accidentally killed at Hortou, Bremer County, by falling from a staging, in 1880. The pulpit was next supplied by Rev. J. H. Moxom, of Cedar Falls, for nearly two years. The present pastor, Rev. C. Pierce, came in April, 1880. The congregation are now erecting a church which, exclusive of furnishings, will cost \$1,500. It is to be finished by Nov. 20, 1882, will be 30 x 50, and will seat about 250. The Sunday-school meets in connection with that of the Methodists. The membership of the church is now about twenty.

#### LODGES.

*Corner Stone Lodge, No. 251, A. F. & A. M.*, was organized under dispensation Dec. 19, 1868, with eleven charter members as follows: W. D. Truax, L. S. Horr, J. I. R. Frost, Ambrose Smith, L. Tatum, William A. Judd, Merritt Towslee, Thomas Garber, Henry Eade, William H. Johnson and J. B. Shepardson. The first officers were as follows: W. D. Truax, W. M.; L. S. Horr, S. W.; J. I. R. Frost, J. W.; William H. Johnson, Secretary; Ambrose Smith, Treasurer; J. B. Shepardson, S. D.; Merritt Towslee, J. D.; William A. Judd, Tyler. The office of W. M. has been held as follows; 1869-'70, W. D. Truax; 1870-'1, J. I. R.

Frost; 1871-'2, L. S. Horr; 1872-'3, L. S. Horr; 1873-'4, L. S. Horr; 1874-'5, L. S. Horr; 1875-'6, L. S. Horr; 1876-'7, J. W. Darland; 1877-'8, J. W. Darland; 1878-'9, J. W. Darland; 1879-'80, E. A. Rosenkrans; 1880-'1, J. W. Darland; 1881-'2, J. W. Darland; 1882-'3, J. W. Darland. The charter is dated June 2, 1869, and is signed by Reuben Mickel, Grand Master; W. S. Smith, S. G. Warden, and T. S. Parvin, G. Secretary,

The present membership is forty-five, and the present officers are as follows: J. W. Darland, W. M.; Robert Huggitt, S. W.; H. C. Inman, J. W.; H. C. Darland, Secretary; William A. Judd, Treasurer; E. A. Rosenkrans, S. D.; H. H. Davidson, J. D.; D. J. Winchell, S. S.; Samuel Rex, J. S.; H. Clay, Tyler.

The lodge meets on the Wednesday on or before the full moon of each month. It is in a very healthy condition.

*Eldorado Encampment, No. 100, I. O. O. F.*, was organized April 11, 1878, with fourteen charter members, as follows: Dr. William A. Clayton, George Luce, R. F. Wilke, Will Wade, F. Harlinske, Dr. C. J. Clark, G. L. Brown, W. E. Hodgkin, A. N. Arnold, H. Kelly, H. Rosenkrans and A. B. Schermerhorn. The first officers elected were as follows: William A. Clayton, C. P.; W. E. Hodgkin, S. W.; A. N. Arnold, J. W.; C. J. Clark, H. P.; Will Wade, Scribe; H. Rosenkrans, Treasurer; Samuel Rex, F. Harlinske and C. M. Dustin, Trustees; C. M. Dustin, O. S. S.; William Spotts, I. S. S.; H. Kelly, G.; H. A. Eddy, 1st W.; J. B. Schermerhorn, 2d W.; J. W. Darland, 3d W.; L. B. Clark, 4th W.

The office of Chief Patriarch has been held as follows: William A. Clayton, April to July, 1878; H. Rosenkrans, July 1, 1878, to January, 1879; C. J. Clark, January to July, 1880; W. E. Hodgkin, July, 1880, to January, 1881; William A. Clayton, January to October, 1881; Harvey C. Inman, October, 1881, to January, 1882; J. Melugin, January to July, 1882.

The present officers are as follows: J. Melugin, C. P.; H. Rosenkrans, S. W.; W. O. Crumb, J. W.; H. C. Inman, H. P.; Allen Moore, Scribe; H. Rosenkrans, Treasurer. The present membership is about twenty. The encampment meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. It is in good condition financially, but has not a very large membership.

*Marble Rock Lodge, No. 362, I. O. O. F.*, was instituted by S. G. Blythe, of Granite Rock Lodge, at Nora Springs, Feb. 2, 1877. The following are the names of the five charter members: C. J.

Clark, Hiram Rosenkrans, L. J. Keyes, J. W. Darland, and Allen Moore. At the first meeting also J. B. Schermerhorn was elected to membership, he holding a dismissal card from another lodge. This first meeting was held in the daytime. In the evening of the same day, twenty-one new members were initiated, thus giving the lodge twenty-seven members to start with. At the same meeting officers were elected as follows: J. W. Darland, N. G.; L. J. Keyes, V. G.; W. M. Wade, R. Sec.; J. P. Schermerhorn, P. Sec.; C. J. Clark, Treasury. The following officers were then appointed by the Noble Grand: H. Rosenkrans, Warden; W. E. Hodgkin, Conductor; C. D. Kindall, R. S. to N. G.; C. M. Dustin, L. S. to N. G.; Samuel Rex, O. G.; C. F. Beelar, I. G.; R. F. Wilke, R. S. S.; R. Huggitt, L. S. S.; W. Harrison, R. S. to V. G.; W. A. Clayton, L. S. to V. G. The first Trustees were E. A. Rosenkrans, George Luce and I. M. Hutches. The Noble Grand appointed as a Finance Committee, H. Rosenkrans, W. Harrison and W. A. Clayton.

The office of Noble Grand has been filled as follows: February to July, 1877, J. W. Darland; July, 1877, to July, 1878, W. A. Clayton; July, 1878, to January, 1879, W. E. Hodgkin; January to July, 1879, W. A. Clayton; July, 1879, to January, 1880, W. Wade; January to July, 1880, Robert Huggitt; July, 1880, to January, 1881, John Melugin; January to July, 1881, W. A. Clayton; July, 1881, to January, 1882, Wm. O. Crumb; January to July, 1882, H. Rosenkrans; July, 1882, to January, 1883, H. C. Inman.

The charter was granted Oct. 18, 1877, and is signed by Herman Block, G. M., and William Ganes, G. S. The present officers are as follows: H. C. Inman, N. G.; W. O. Crumb, V. G.; John Melugin, R. Sec.; John Melugin, P. Sec.; Robert Huggitt, Warden; H. B. Nies, Conductor; William Wagner, O. G.; George Schultz, I. G.; H. Montrose, R. S. to N. G.; W. Kinney, L. S. to V. G. The membership is now forty-six, and the lodge is prosperous financially and otherwise. It meets at Odd Fellows' Hall every Monday evening.

*Murble Rock Lodge, No. 96, I. L. of H.*, was organized Nov. 15, 1880, by Instituting Officer Holm, with a charter membership of twenty-nine. The first officers were as follows: John Goodmiller, President; T. W. Boon, Vice-President; William A. Clayton, Recording Secretary; A. J. Asper, Financial Secretary; A. W. .

Hawks, Treasurer; C. J. Clark, Chaplain; W. F. Hall, Usher; O. W. Wallace, Door-keeper; G. M. Hubbard, Sentinel.

The office of President has been filled by John Goodmiller, until July 1, 1882, when L. W. Rosenkrans was elected to that office.

The present membership is eighteen. The present officers, chosen July 1, 1882 are as follows: L. W. Rosenkrans, President; G. M. Hubbard, Vice-President; R. J. Ackley, Recording Secretary; Samuel Sours, Financial Secretary; A. W. Hawks, Treasurer; O. W. Wallace, Chaplain; C. C. Brown, Usher; Egbert Hawks, Door-keeper; Peter Halstead, Sentinel. The lodge meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

The purposes of this organization are similar to those of other secret societies, chiefly insurance. It pays \$2,000 to the family of any member who dies. The only other lodge in the county is at Charles City.

*The Independent Order of Good Templars* had for many years a flourishing lodge at Marble Rock. It was organized in 1858, and among the first members were: H. C. Inman, Samuel Rex, George E. Frost, Wolsey Hawks, Ephraim Inman, L. S. Horr, Alonzo Inman, Egbert Hawks and C. F. Beelar. H. C. Inman was the first Worthy Chief Templar. Among the first lady members were Sarah McCollun (now Mrs. H. C. Inman), Mrs. A. M. Sours, Mrs. Emily Ackley and Emeline Comstock (now Mrs. Nicholas Rosenkrans). The lodge had a continuous existence except for an interval of about three years at the close of the war. At times it was very strong, having at one time a membership of seventy. For many years it averaged thirty. The charter was surrendered in June, 1880.

*Charity Chapter, No. 49, O. E. S.*, was organized May 25, 1877, by J. A. Carson and Mrs. Jennie E. Mathews, of Fidelity Chapter, at Rockford. The following were the officers elected at this meeting: G. H. Nicholas, W. P.; Mrs. M. E. Hodgins, W. M.; Mrs. E. A. Rosenkrans, A. M.; Mrs. W. A. Judd, Treasurer; Mary Judd, Secretary; Mrs. J. W. Darland, Conductress; Mrs. L. S. Horr, Assistant Conductress; Mrs. Mattie Darland, Adah; Mrs. C. Hutches, Ruth; Mrs. G. H. Nichols, Esther; Mrs. Martha Brown, Martha; Mrs. Mary Winchell, Electa; Dr. E. B. Haines, Warden; W. E. Hodgins, Sentinel. The chapter has not met since July 22, 1881, though there are about thirty members resident here.

*The Patrons of Husbandry* had a grange at Marble Rock about 1873, which met for about a year, and then died out. Among the

prominent members were J. T. Baltimore, Loren Inman and H. Lorey. For a time the organization was very strong, and its members very active.

#### OTHER SOCIETIES.

*The Marble Rock Cornet Band* was organized about 1875, and has had a continuous existence ever since. It has now nine members, as follows: L. B. Clark, E Flat Cornet; J. P. Kindall, B Flat Cornet; Dr. A. M. Brown, E Flat Cornet; B. Greenwood, Solo Alto; C. Jessmoe, Tenor; T. Manchester, Tenor; J. Ritter, Tuba; William Ritter, Bass Drum; William Noble, Snare Drum. The band has played principally at home, but occasionally visits Rockford, Greene, and other neighboring places. Connected with the band is the Marble Rock Orchestra, composed of the following members: J. P. Kindall, Leader, First Violin; B. Greenwood, Second Violin; S. B. Clark, Cornet; J. Wilson, Clarionet; O. P. Schermerhorn, Bass Viol and Caller.

*The Marble Rock Woman's Christian Temperance Union* was organized June 21, 1882, at the Methodist Episcopal church, by Mrs. J. C. Lockwood, County President. The officers elected at that time were as follows: Mrs. C. E. Hightshoe, President; Mrs. S. P. Bissell, Vice-President; Mrs. H. H. Davidson, Secretary; Mrs. H. C. Inman, Treasurer. The union has a membership of about fifty, and considerable interest is manifested in the work. The members feel quite hopeful that the society, though young, will soon be productive of much good. They meet alternate Wednesdays at the Methodist Episcopal church.

*Our Country's Defenders* was the name of an organization some what similar to the Grand Army of the Republic. Its membership comprised ex-soldiers, and the society was designed to promote the interest of those who took up arms in defense of their country. It was a secret organization, with a regular ritual and paraphernalia. An encampment was organized at Marble Rock, June 9, 1880, but no charter was received, so that no meetings have been held since.

The following officers were duly elected: W. D. Lamb, Commander; John Goodmiller, Lieutenant; Willard Bucklin, Adjutant; H. Garber, Quartermaster; H. S. Waist, Sergeant-Major; James Conner, Quartermaster-Sergeant; A. A. Egnew, Chaplain; Smith S. Boon, Officer of the Day; Milon Hubbard, Officer of the Guard; Horace Hawks, Drum Major; Wiley Boon, Chief Musician.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

*C. T. Ackley* was born in Pittsfield, Otsego County, N. Y., July 25, 1833. He was the sixth child of James and Nancy Ackley. Mr. Ackley made New York his home till 1855, when he came to Iowa, arriving in Union Township, this county, on the 24th day of November. The same fall he pre-empted the farm of 160 acres, where he still resides, on section 20, township 94, range 17, about two miles southwest of Marble Rock. The year following his arrival he built the first residence in Aureola, and was the first white resident of that place. Here they lost a child, Marian, at about the age of four months; this was the first death of the place. The high water caused considerable malaria, and Mr. Ackley and his wife were both afflicted with the malady, which caused them to change their location. He then moved to his farm, where he had just completed the building of a fine large frame house. This home they enjoyed till April, 1860, when it was destroyed entirely by fire; the building was not the only loss. Having no granary he placed in this house all his grain, which was also lost, as well as the greater portion of his furniture. Though Mr. Ackley has furnished us much interesting matter, we believe he could have furnished even more had he not lost in this fire a diary which he had kept since coming to this country. He a once erected a log house that served as a home till the year 1879, when he built one of the best residences in the county. His surroundings are beautified with shade and fruit trees, so that he has one of the finest homes and farms in the Northwest. On the 15th day of January, 1861, he started with his family for New York; on account of snow blockades, it took them seventeen days to get to Dubuque; they shoveled snow most of the way. They returned in November, 1862, to this county. In December, 1863, Mr. Ackley enlisted in Company B, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, Judge Reiniger, Captain. Served his country till the war closed, being discharged in July, 1865. His life as a soldier was an active one, participating in many hard engagements; a few of the most prominent ones we give below. We can group them by saying he was in all the battles near Atlanta, Peach Tree Creek and Sherman's march to the sea, Pumpkin Vine, Dallas, Jonesborough; here the color-bearer was wounded, and Mr. Ackley carried the colors till the close of the war. He was never wounded, but has stood touching elbows with men who were shot. A marvelous incident is related by Mr. Ackley, that we make note of

here, illustrating how often death's missiles, though their numbers are legion, are ineffective: At Jonesborough they were ordered to charge upon the enemy double quick; during this act the shot and shell and rifle balls rained down upon them like hail, and not a single man was wounded. They had scarcely made this charge till they were ordered to make a similar charge in another direction; this they did under as heavy a fire as before, and not a single man was hit with a missile of death. Of course this is not the rule but a marvelous exception. At the battle of Ray's Ferry, Georgia, there were sixty-three men killed and wounded in his regiment in less than thirty minutes. The last three months of Mr. Ackley's service he was in the rear, on account of sickness contracted by the exposure of army life. Part of this time he was in the hospital; we are sorry to have to add that he has never recovered fully from those troubles; it seems almost cruel in nature to furnish men with disease the balance of their lives, who have contracted it in the defense of their country. Since Mr. Ackley's return from the army, he has resided upon his farm with the exception of three years, when he rented his farm and lived in Marble Rock. Mr. Ackley was married in New York State in 1863, to Miss Elizabeth Thayer, a native of Otsego County, N. Y. They have a family of three children—Leonora E., now the wife of Charles Morrison, and resides in Phillip County, Kas.; Elborn D., now twenty-one years of age; Merton I., twelve years of age. The sons are both residing at home. Mr. Ackley has been a life long Republican and Prohibitionist, voting first for J. C. Fremont. Has held the office of Assessor and Township Trustee several times, being among the first elected.

*G. C. Ackley* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., in 1827. He was the third child of James and Nancy Ackley. Here Mr. Ackley made his home till 1853, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., where he remained only a short time, when he went to Illinois and remained three or four months; then he returned to this county, staid about six months, when he again returned to Illinois and staid till 1855, when he and the rest of the family came to this county, and have since resided. G. C. Ackley resides where he first settled with his parents, situated on section 20, Union Township. Mr. Ackley was married in this county in 1869, to Miss Lucinda Vanduzen. Their family consists of four children—Wm. Henry, Lilly Elmer, Charles E. and George M. Mr. Ackley is



not only first among the citizens of this county in point of time, but in point of citizenship. Though not an aspirant for office he has always taken an active interest in the success of the Republican party. Mr. Ackley is another man who, by his life, has demonstrated that it requires a man of energy and pluck to face these pioneer hardships.

*James Ackley* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., March 12, 1799; married Nancy Brightman in New York, April 18, 1822. She was born in Rhode Island, Aug. 18, 1797. Moved to Illinois in 1864. Came to Iowa Nov. 24, 1865, driving from Illinois with a team, and settled upon the farm where G. C. Ackley now resides, on section 20, township 94, range 17. Here he made his home till his death, which occurred Feb. 1, 1870. Mrs. Ackley is still living. Both were members of the Free-Will Baptist church. James Ackley's family consisted of eleven children; nine grew to man and womanhood, six sons and three daughters, all of whom are still supposed to be living. Their relative positions with regard to age follow as their names are given below — David, died at the age of ten, by falling from a tree and severing the jugular vein on a snag that had been cut sharp with an ax; Nancy died at the age of two, accidentally scalded by pulling a kettle of hot water onto herself; J. M. and G. C.'s sketches we have already in this work; Wm. H. came to Iowa in 1853, returned to New York in 1857; after visiting there a short time he took the train for the West again, as his friends supposed, but since that day has never been heard from; Sally E. married Henry Schermerhorn in New York State and came West in 1855; Mr. Schermerhorn died in February, 1882; the widow resides in Scott Township with her daughter, Mrs. Henry Montrose; C. T. and Russel's sketches are also in this work; Fannie married Egbert Davis, whose sketch will also be found here; Judson, whose sketch will also be found in this work; Mary Jane married Sam Rex, whose sketch will be found in this work.

*J. M. Ackley* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., in 1825. He is the oldest living child of James and Nancy Ackley. Mr. Ackley made that State his home till he came to Iowa, which was in the winter of 1853, locating in Union Township, Floyd County. The first two years he was scarcely settled in this county, but spent a portion of it in Illinois visiting friends and working. The second year he returned to New York, and remained only about ten months, when he returned to Iowa in company with his brother

C. T. and his wife, and his own wife. At that date they could not go on the cars further than Dunliff; from there to Cedar Falls they staged it. From there they had to hire a conveyance, paying \$12 for the pleasure of riding over the wild prairie. In 1855 Mr. Ackley and his brother C. T. pre-empted 320 acres of land, and built a long shanty. They had a partition through this building, each family living upon his own land, thus securing the clear title to the land under the law. Upon this land Mr. Ackley still resides, being situated on section 29, range 94 west, Union Township; has added to his first purchase, so that now he owns in all 215 acres. In the year 1872, or thereabout, he built himself a fine residence, being one of the best in the county. His home is nicely situated and presents a fine appearance. Mr. Ackley is now enjoying the fruits of a life of ambition and energy and industry. He began at the stump, as some term it, and has raised himself to a position of independence. His start in this county was discouraging. On the way he and his brother C. T. each lost a large box of clothing, supposed to be burned up in the Chicago depot, the most of which was new and badly needed, for they were without a change of clothes and nearly out of money. These were indeed dark days. But for these stout-hearted pioneers the grand West, now swarming with busy people and waving with rich harvests, would be a desert still. Mr. Ackley was married in 1855 to Miss Juliana Thayer, a native of New York. They have no family living; lost two children in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Ackley have been members of the Free-Will Baptist Church for the past twenty-five years. Mr. Ackley was never an office-seeker though he has been a life-long and solid Republican.

*R. J. Ackley* was born in Otsego County, N. Y., in 1835. He was the sixth child of James and Nancy Ackley. When Mr. Ackley came to Iowa he was twenty years of age, it being in 1855. He located in Marble Rock, where he still resides. He spent the summer of 1855 traveling in Minnesota looking at the country; afterward clerked in a store nearly a year in Marble Rock; the year following worked at the carpenter's trade. The winter of 1860 he taught school in Rock Grove, where he made the acquaintance of Mr. Gaylord. From this date till 1870 he was principally engaged in farming, though he worked at the trade of carpenter some of the time. In 1870 he went into the hotel business and ran the Marble Rock Hotel nearly a year. The year following he clerked for Shepardson & Beelar, dry-goods merchants. The year following he

resumed farming, at the expiration of which time he assumed the management of the elevator and continued at it three years. He again engaged in farming and continued at it until 1879, when he took charge of the Beelar House and ran it nearly two years. At this date we find him still a resident of Marble Rock, enjoying a fine home and the society of his many friends. Mr. Ackley was married July 6, 1861, to Miss Maria J. Baltimore, daughter of Ashbury Baltimore. They have a family of six children—Ella Irene, Viva Estell, Nancy Isabel, Ashbury J., Bertha May and Nellie Ethel. Mr. Ackley is a member of the Iowa Legion of Honor. Politically he is a Republican and Prohibitionist; has held the office of Town Clerk one year, Trustee two years, and Constable four years, and is at present a member of the Town Council.

*S. J. Ackley* was born in New York State in 1840. He was the youngest son of James and Nancy Ackley. At the age of twelve he came with his parents to Iowa, locating in Floyd County. He made his home with his parents about six years after coming to the county. In 1859 he married Miss Emily Rex. At this date he commenced for himself by renting land. In 1866 he lost his wife who left him three children—Ida V. makes her home with her grandmother; Garrison, married and a farmer; Desdemona A. makes her father's house her home. Mr. Ackley married his second wife, Sarah J. Asper, in 1870. They have three children—Arminta P., Nellie Ann and Joseph H. Politically Mr. Ackley is a Republican.

*J. D. Anthony* was born in New York State, March 30, 1838. Here he made his home till he was about twenty years of age, when he went to Illinois, where he remained about ten years, in Whiteside County. About six months after going to Illinois, his father, Peter, and mother, Nancy Anthony, joined him and made his house their home while he remained in the State. Mr. Anthony came to Floyd County in 1864, locating in Marble Rock, where he has since resided. Shortly after he left Illinois his father died, and his mother made her home with her son, A. P. Anthony, in Chicago, for about eleven years, when she came to Iowa, and again made her home with her son, J. D. Anthony, till her death, which occurred in 1878; her remains lie in the Marble Rock Cemetery. In New York he learned the heavy brace carpenter's trade. After going to Illinois he turned his attention almost absolutely to farm work, at which he worked most of the time while in the State, and since coming to Iowa has turned his attention principally to carpenter-

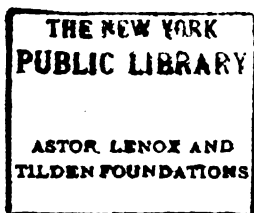
ing, doing the most of the building in Marble Rock. The fine school-house is a grand monument to his memory. He has built for himself one of the finest residences in the county. His surroundings are naturally beautiful and embellished without so that he has one of the grandest homes on the Shell Rock River. The house presents a grand view from its commanding position, overlooking some of the finest beauties of nature's art up and down the Shell Rock. Mr. Anthony deserves great credit for the pluck and energy in his pioneer life, and its conflicts with hard times. He has raised a family of five children and keeps them in school constantly, and means to furnish each with a good education. Mr. Anthony was married Nov. 16, 1862, to Miss Magdaline Clay. The names of the children are—John J., Clara C., Albert A., Nancy Bell, and Anna Edith.

*W. H. Ash* was born in Wisconsin, in 1852. He is a son of W. D. Ash, a resident of Wisconsin. W. H. Ash made his home in Wisconsin till the spring of 1881, when he moved to Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, where he remained till September of the same year; at this date he became a citizen of Floyd County, locating upon the farm of 164 acres, where he still resides, on the Shell Rock River, about three and a half miles south of Marble Rock. He is at present cultivating about eighty acres. Mr. Ash was married Jan. 27, 1872, to Miss Martha Hales, a native of England, being born there in 1850, and coming to America at about the age of one year. She was a daughter of James Hales, who resided in Wisconsin. He died in 1864. They have one son—Leland, nearly three years of age. Politically he is a Democrat, though his wife's influence is in favor of the Republican party. Mr. Ash is a member of the order of Freemasons.

*A. J. Asper* was born in Summit County, O., in 1836. At the age of thirteen he commenced to do for himself by running a retail patent-medicine wagon in Ohio. At this he was engaged about four years. At the expiration of this time he went to Plainfield, Ill., and worked in a drug store with E. G. Wright about five years. In 1858 he became a citizen of Floyd County, locating in Marble Rock, Union Township, where he engaged in farming till 1863. In February, 1864, he enlisted in Company B, Seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry; served on the Atlanta campaign as far as Big Shanty, Northern Georgia; then was put into detached service with the Western Sanitary Commission, headquarters at St. Louis; operated at the front till Atlanta was vacated, when he re-

turned to St. Louis and remained in the same avocation till he was mustered out in July, 1865, when he returned to Marble Rock and engaged in the grocery business; this he continued about two years, when he sold out and engaged in buying and shipping grain, at which he continued about eight years. In 1880 he purchased an entire new stock of drugs, and is still engaged in that business. A word of comment being admissible, we wish to say he has a fine store and is doing a very good business. In Marble Rock, March 13, 1860, he and Miss O. S. Hawks were united in marriage. She was a native of New York State. They have a family of five children—Roderic R., Cora E., Nora M., Edith I., Blanche E., Carl J.

*Russell Z. Bailey* was born in Bedford, Cuyahoga County, O., July 27, 1838. He was a son of David and Elmira Bailey, both natives of New England. Mr. Bailey lived in Ohio till he was twelve years of age, when he moved with his parents to DeKalb County, Ill., where he resided till August, 1861, when he enlisted in Company A, Second Illinois Light Artillery; served his country three years and was mustered out in September, 1864, at Springfield, Ill. He was never wounded nor taken prisoner, though he was in some of the hardest-fought battles of the Rebellion, among the more prominent of which were the siege of Vicksburg, battles of Coffeyville and Hickman, besides a host of sharp skirmishes. Immediately after his return from the army he came to Floyd County, Ia., and remained about six months, when he returned to Illinois and remained about a year, when, in the fall of 1866, he returned to this county to make his home. His first purchase was on section 21, consisting of 160 acres, where he lived three years, when he sold to Isaac Shultz, and bought the farm of 160 acres where he now resides, on section 27, about three miles southeast of Marble Rock. The railroad cutting off about forty acres on the west side, he has since purchased eighty acres on section 30, about three miles southwest of Marble Rock. He also owns 200 acres six miles west of Marble Rock, in Scott Township, making in all 440 acres, besides some property in the village of Marble Rock. He puts in crop yearly about 150 acres, besides keeping from thirty to forty head of cattle and horses, and from forty to fifty hogs. In 1870 he built one of the best farm houses in the county, the other buildings and surroundings being in keeping with the house. Mr. Bailey was married in Sycamore, Ill., in 1865 to Cora Robison, a native of New York State. They have four children—Loey R., Elroy B., Leon A., and Earl R., ages,





*T. S. Clark*

fifteen, ten, eight, and three respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey and their eldest son are members of the Baptist church.

*Ashbury Baltimore* was born in Montgomery County, O., near Dayton, June 16, 1807. At about the age of twelve, he went with his father, Philip Baltimore, to Wayne County, Ind., where Mr. Ashbury Baltimore farmed for about thirty years, when he went to Michigan and farmed about five years. At the expiration of this time he returned to Indiana and farmed four years. June 29, 1853, he became a citizen of Floyd County, Iowa, locating in what is now known as Marble Rock, Union Township. Has been interested in farming principally ever since coming to the county. He was the second man who settled in the township. In those days he had to go to Cedar Rapids for provisions, and haul grain to Independence, Waterloo and McGregor. The price of wheat sometimes was as low as thirty-five cents a bushel, but usually ranged from seventy-five to eighty cents, while pork was from three to five dollars. He got one dollar for his first wheat and fifteen cents for his first pork, dressed. Mr. Baltimore owns 200 acres of land three miles from the pleasant village of Marble Rock, which he superintends still. He owns also a pleasant home in the village besides ten town lots nicely situated, that will soon be occupied as village homes. He was the first man in the county who ever got a premium on a wolf and wild-cat scalp, which he received in 1856. The first school in the township was taught in his house. Mr. Baltimore was married in Wayne County, Ind., Nov. 4, 1830, to Miss Sarah Ritter. She was also a native of Ohio, being born there Sept. 3, 1812. Their family consisted of nine children, six of whom are now living. They all reside in Union Township except one son, who resides in Nebraska—Louiza, born Aug. 16, 1838, now the wife of Peter Vorhes; Maria, born Dec. 25, 1840, married R. J. Ackley; Sarah, born Feb. 7, 1843, married Luban Vorhes; John, born Dec. 5, 1844, married Tilla Palferd; Diantha, born Oct. 4, 1848, married Charles F. Bealar; Mary, born June 23, 1850, married William Bucklin. Of this large family we can but remark they are well worthy the pride of their father, since they are all acting well their parts in life, and are well to do. And they in return can be proud of a father who had the courage to face all the hardships of pioneer life in order to secure homes for his children. Mr. Baltimore is one of those few men who has by his own exertions wrung from the hard hand of toil a property that makes him independent. He is one of those men, too, who has



helped lay the foundation to Floyd County's successful history. If the coming generation maintain the good order and society these stout-handed men did, they will be doing more than is expected of them. Mrs. Baltimore's mother is still living with them at the advanced age of ninety-eight. An incident that will long be remembered by his family, who were nearly all present at the time, we make note of here, as almost a miraculous draft of fishes. One of the severe winters not long after coming to this county, he conceived the idea that there might be some fish caught by cutting through the ice. This was done with great success, securing about a wagon-load of beautiful fish. While they were engaged in this they heard the dogs running a deer, and presently a large one came sliding and slipping on the ice, and fell not far from them. Mr. Baltimore seized the grand opportunity and slaughtered him then and there. Venison and fish were a plentiful article of food at the Baltimore house for some months afterward.

*George Barth*, deceased, was born in Canada, Aug. 12, 1836. He remained in Canada, engaged in farming, till the 9th of March, 1872, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., and bought the farm where the family still resides, on section 2, Union Township, about three miles northeast of Marble Rock. His first purchase was three eighths; he afterward bought the balance of section 2, making the only full section farm in Union Township. Upon this farm was a small building. This he added to and rebuilt, so that now it is a large farm-house. This farm was all wild land except 150 acres. It has since all been cultivated, except 160 acres, which is kept for pasture and timber. Upon this farm Mr. Barth lived till his death, which occurred March 20, 1878. He was married in Canada, July 9, 1863, to Mary Harbert, who was born in Germany, Feb. 29, 1843, and went to Canada with her parents when she was about four years of age. The family consists of seven children—Mary, Margaret, George, Lydia, John, Daniel and William. Mr. and Mrs. Barth were members of the Lutheran church, and Mrs. Barth is still a member of the same.

*C. F. Beelar* was born in Missouri, Nov. 13, 1838; came to Iowa with his father, Jacob Beelar, when a mere child, and has since made this State his home, stopping in Lee County about six years, and about six years in Bremer County. At about the age of thirteen he became a citizen of Floyd County, and has since that time resided here upon the bank of Shell Rock River, where the pleasant little village of Marble Rock now stands. He has been

more or less identified with its growth, though he has given considerable attention to farming. He in company with Mr. Shepardson engaged in the mercantile business two years in Marble Rock, it being about the year 1870. In 1871 he engaged in the hotel business, at which he remained about eight years. Since then he has rented it part of the time. He built the hotel and barn himself, which reflects considerable credit upon the town and upon his own enterprise. In 1880 he and N. H. Ostrander built a creamery in the village, which is quite an accession to the village. It is run by the water-power of a lively little brook, through the auspices of a livelier eleven-inch turbine wheel, which furnishes an abundance of power. Its capacity for making butter is, easily, 800 pounds. per day. He owns in addition to his town property about 230 acres adjoining the village, which occupies a portion of his attention. Politically we find Mr. Beelar a Republican, and awake to the live issues of the day, as his bold energy in behalf of the Amendment will illustrate; has held the office of Constable and Town Clerk, and is now filling the office of Justice of the Peace. In 1868 he and Miss Diantha Baltimore were united in marriage in Marble Rock. She was a native of Indiana. They have two children—Oscar and Maudie, ages thirteen and ten respectively. Of Mr. Beelar we beg leave to say he is not only one of the first men of his township in point of time of settlement, but in point of citizenship.

*Jacob Beelar*, deceased, was born in Tennessee, Feb. 22, 1789, where he made his home with his father, who was a farmer, till he was about twenty years of age, when he went to Indiana, and remained there till about the year 1838, when he came to Iowa, locating first in Lee County, where he remained about six years; thence to Bremer County, and stopped about six years, and in February, 1852 he became a citizen of Floyd County. He too a Government claim of 600 or 700 acres, the land not being then in market, but soon as it was made possible he entered about 480, upon which he resided till his death, which occurred Jan. 25, 1858. This property was situated where Marble Rock now stands. A 16 x 16 log house was the first building erected in the township. This he built in 1851, the year previous to bringing his family into the county. In 1852 he built another log house, 20 x 30. Neither of these houses now stand, the larger one being destroyed only six or seven years ago. Mr. Beelar was the first settler in this township, and remained about one year without a single neigh-

bor. He married his first wife in Indiana, and by her he had six children. He married his second wife, Caroline Fisher, a native of Germany, in Crawfordsville, Ind., by whom he had six children, four still living; their names are as follows: Cynthia Ann, who is now the wife of Abram Johnson, and resides in Homer, Hamilton County, Iowa; C. F. Beelar is the next oldest, who is married and resides at Marble Rock, upon the old homestead; Jesse Mc., also married, and living in Verndale, Minn; Dartha, now the wife of Jacob Rex, residing at Puget Sound, Wash. Ter., where Mrs. Beelar is living with his daughter, at the advanced age of seventy-six. Mr. Beelar was a man of perfect physical organization and health, being five feet and ten inches tall, and weighing about 240 pounds. He was identified with the war of 1812.

*S. P. Bissell* was born in Aurora, Portage County, Ohio, in 1825. Here he made his home till about twenty-eight years of age; he was reared on a farm, and received a good common-school education; at the age of twenty-one he entered the Twinsburg Academy, where he remained two years, during part of which time he was an assistant teacher. At the age of twenty-four he married Harriet L. Griffith, daughter of James Griffith, one of Floyd County's pioneers. Shortly after his marriage he went to Wisconsin and engaged in farming one season; afterward returned to Ohio and remained about three years. In his twenty-fifth year he commenced to learn the blacksmith's trade, at which avocation he was employed till he came to Iowa in 1854. He located first in Nora Springs, where he remained about two years; his first work in this county was to iron off a saw-mill at Nora Springs, after which he taught the first singing school in Floyd County. While he resided at Nora Springs he worked at his trade, but the population was so scarce that he was unemployed three fourths of the time, though farmers came as far as 100 miles to get a plow layed; he had many customers from Minnesota. At the expiration of this two years he moved to Floyd, where he resided six or seven years, engaged in blacksmithing and teaching occasional classes in vocal music, after which he moved to Fayette for the purpose of having his family avail themselves of the opportunities afforded by the college; here he remained three years, which time he was wholly employed in teaching vocal music in that part of the country; a part of the time he was a teacher of music in the college. In 1868 he became a citizen of Marble Rock, where he continued his profession as

teacher of vocal music, and was agent for a life and fire insurance company, till the fall of 1880, when he abandoned teaching on account of his impaired health. In 1881 he again resumed his trade, at which we find him engaged. With all due respect to Mr. Bissell, we wish to say, in one sense of the word, he appears out of his place in a blacksmith shop. Not that he is not proficient, but he seems better calculated to fill a position where muscle is not absolutely king. As a music teacher, he certainly is an eminent one. Since he was seventeen years of age a twelve months has scarcely passed but he has taught more or less. The truth of the statement will be seen when we say that he has taught over 100 terms of school. Mr. Bissell was married Feb. 28, 1849, in the city of Cleveland, Ohio; his family consists of two children living—Frankie is now the wife of E. A. Rosenkrans; Fred is engaged with the mining speculations of Idaho. In 1878 Mr. Bissell lost his third child, Elmer E., at the age of eleven, by drowning in the Shell Rock River, close to the village.

*T. W. Boon* was born in Washington County, Ohio, May 10, 1843. He is a son of Thomas and Eunice Boon, who are now both deceased. The mother died about the year 1855. His father died in April, 1879. When T. W. Boon was about ten years of age, he went to Illinois in company with his father. They spent about two years in DeKalb County, while the two older brothers, W. M. and S. M., were breaking up prairie and building houses on land his father had previously purchased in Union Township, Floyd County, Iowa. It was in the year 1856 that Mr. Boon became a citizen of Floyd County, where he has since resided, with the exception of two years spent in Clay County and three years in the army. He enlisted in July, 1862, in Company G, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry; was never wounded or taken prisoner, but was on three different occasions taken to the hospital as a patient, remaining only a short time, the longest stay being about thirty days. He participated in some of the hardest engagements, among them Cape Girardo, Little Rock, Ark., Lake Chicoma, Memphis, Tenn., the battle of Tupelo, besides the many skirmishes connected with Price's raid on St. Louis, known as the Iron Mountain. The last battle he was in was at Nashville, Dec. 15 and 16, 1864. He was mustered out at Memphis, Tenn., May 25, 1865. Mr. Boon learned the mason's trade when about thirteen years of age, and has worked at it for about twenty years. He was married Dec. 30, 1866, to Maggie Sherman, a native of Michigan. They have three

children—Emma J., Daniel and Harry E. Politically Mr. Boon is a Republican.

*George Bowers* was born in Hillsboro County, N. H., in 1822. He was a son of Jonathan S. and Elizabeth Bowers. At the age of fourteen he engaged as a sailor on a whaling vessel. This avocation he followed till he was twenty-two years of age. During this time he sailed around the world, spending the most of the time among the South Sea Islands; spent nine months on Ascension Island, Carolina Group, it being the capital of the Group. After he abandoned the sea he returned to New Hampshire, and worked in a town about two years; afterward worked in a cotton-mill in Chicopee, Mass. At this he engaged nine years. He returned to New Hampshire and farmed about three years. In 1857 he went to Illinois, where he spent about nine years as a farmer. From there he moved to Iowa, locating in Floyd County, and purchased the farm of seventy acres where he still resides, in Union Township, about one and three-quarter miles East of Marble Rock. Mr. Bowers was married in 1846 to Miss Nancy Lawrence, a native of Warren, Maine. She died in 1852, leaving two children—Alfred and George, who died shortly afterward, both being very small. Mr. Bowers married his second wife Sept. 16, 1861. Her name was Bridget Heartt, a native of Ireland. They have no family.

*C. W. Bowman* was born in Indiana in 1836, where he made his home till he was about fifteen years of age, when he moved with his parents to Allamakee County, Iowa, and resided till Sept. 20, 1868, when he became a citizen of Floyd County, thus identifying himself as one of our county's first settlers. At this time he purchased 160 acres where he still resides, on section 28, Union Township. Has since added forty acres, making a fine farm of 200 acres. He has a nice home, with its beautiful surroundings and fine location. Every foot of the farm is under first class cultivation. He crops yearly about 160 acres, keeping about thirty five head of cattle, and usually 200 head of hogs, and horses sufficient to carry on his farming. Mr. Bowman was married in Allamakee County, in 1860, to Miss Sarah A. Callender, a native of Ohio. They have no family. Mr. Bowman is a member of the order of Freemasons. Though never an aspirant for office, he has always taken an active interest in politics, and votes the straight Republican ticket.

*A. M. Brown, M. D.*, was born Sept. 3, 1845, in Woodstock, Vt. His father, Dr. Alfred Brown, filled the chair of demonstrator of

anatomy in the Vermont Medical College about two years, practicing medicine at the same time. About the year 1846 he moved with his family to Waukesha, Wis., where he practiced only one year when he died with Asiatic cholera. He left a family of four children, three daughters and one son — Helen, the oldest, is the wife of W. S. Rowe, a car manufacturer of Waukesha; the second, Edna A., is the wife of Prof. D. C. Hall, of Boston, Mass., extensively engaged in the manufacturing of musical instruments; Cornelia O., the third daughter, married C. H. Rice, of Adel, Dallas County, Ia., proprietor of the Island farm; A. M., the youngest child and only son, the subject of this sketch, lived upon a farm from his ninth to his fourteenth year, in Waukesha County, Wis.; from this date till the year 1863 he was engaged in making musical instruments. Aug. 30, 1863, he enlisted in Company A, First United States Veteran Volunteer Engineers; served his country over two years, and returned home without a scratch from the enemy's bullets, though he participated in the hard-fought battles of Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., besides numerous skirmishes. He was discharged Sept. 25, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. He returned to Boston and resumed his avocation of making musical instruments about one year, when he went to Waukesha, Wis., and commenced the study of medicine with V. L. Moore, a homeopathic physician. He attended lectures at Iowa City one term, and graduated at Rush Medical College in 1877, though he had been practicing several years previously, having begun in Scranton, Greene County, in 1871, where he practiced till 1879, when he went to Rockford, this county, and practiced two years. Feb. 21, 1881, he formed a copartnership with Dr. O. J. Clark in the allopathy practice of medicine in Marble Rock. Was married Nov. 30, 1875, to Miss Nellie D. Hunt, a native of Illinois. They have one child — Eva L., born Oct. 31, 1876.

*Charles C. Brown* was born in Indiana, Oct. 6, 1831, where he remained with his father, John Brown, till he was fourteen years of age, when the family moved to Rockford, Ill., and remained about six years, when the family again moved, this time to Lafayette County, Wis. Mr. C. C. Brown spent about sixteen years in this part of the country, dividing his time between Wisconsin and Illinois, residing not far from the State line any of the time. Feb. 24, 1865, he enlisted in Company C, Fiftieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; served his country six months, when he was discharged on account of poor health; was mustered out Aug. 2, 1865, at Fort Leaven-

worth, Kas. Mr. Brown became a citizen of Floyd County in 1870, locating in Marble Rock, where he remained about two years on a farm near the village, when he went to Nora Springs, where he remained about five years, farming part of the time; the balance of the time he was in the hotel business. In 1877 he returned to Marble Rock, and has since made this his home. Since returning he has been occupied in various ways, some of the time on the railroad, and some in a blacksmith shop, having learned that trade in Scales Mound, Ill. Mr. Brown was married in Lafayette County, Wis., in 1855, to Miss Julia E. Stevens. They have three children—Alma A., John F. and William H.

*Michael Brunner* was born in Canada, in 1842; he was a son of Jacob and Margaret Brunner, both natives of France. At about the age of twenty-four, he came to the United States, locating in Winneshiek County, Ia., where he remained ten years, engaged in farming. In 1876 he became a citizen of Floyd County; purchased at that time the farm of 160 acres, where he still resides, on section 13, Union Township; upon this farm he built a fine farm residence the year he came, and the two years following he built a good barn. He has turned this farm from a wild raw prairie into a thoroughly cultivated farm. His surroundings are adorned with nicely arranged shade trees, so that he has one of the nicest homes in the county. This farm he carries on himself, putting in crop each year about 100 acres, and besides twenty acres he rents, besides keeping about nine head of horses and nineteen cattle, and from forty-five to ninety head of hogs. Mr. Brunner was married in 1865, to Catharine Ruffridge, a native of Canada. They have a family of eight children—Jacob, Anna, Maggie and Mary (twins), Evalina, William, Katie and Antonia. Both Mr. and Mrs. Brunner are members of the Lutheran church.

*Michael Carbiener* was born in France in 1833. He was a son of George and Catharine Carbiener. At about the age of twenty he came to America, locating first in Indiana, where he resided about two years, when he went to Illinois, near Frankfort; here he lived about seven years. At this date he came to Iowa, locating in Floyd County, purchasing his farm of 300 acres, where he still resides, on section 15, about one and one-half miles southeast of Marble Rock. This farm is one of the finest in the county. It is beautifully situated, presenting one of the grandest views of the surrounding country we ever saw. Mr. Carbiener has, by his own hard labor, cleared the farm of rocks and grubs, and turned it from a wild, raw

prairie, to a beautiful farm, all being under a splendid state of cultivation. He built a fine house and barn, and with nicely arranged shade trees has his surroundings beautified so that he has one of the nicest homes in the Northwest. He puts in crop, yearly, about 270 acres. A portion he farms himself, and rents a part, besides keeping from eight to ten head of horses and colts, and from twenty to twenty-five head of cattle, and from forty to fifty head of hogs, some years even exceeding this number. Mr. Carbiener was married in 1860 to Mary Hammon, a native of France. They have ten children—Mary, married William Theman, and resides five miles west of Marble Rock; Sarah, George, Margaret, Jacob, Elizabeth, Michael, Lewis, Fredrick and William. The nine younger children still reside at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Carbiener are members of the German Lutheran church. Politically, we are pleased to say that Mr. Carbiener always votes for the best man, if he knows him, but when it comes to a State or United States election he votes the Democratic ticket. Mr. Carbiener is among those men who helped lay the successful and solid foundation to the history of Floyd County. He is a man who has been very successful, and has by his own exertions placed himself among the sound, able and wealthy farmers of our county. Not only this, but he has the best word and wishes of all his neighbors, and is social and pleasant to all, and has a host of friends.

*Andrew Carney* was born in Pennsylvania in 1821. He was a son of Andrew and Barbara E. (Swagart) Carney. Mr. Carney spent his childhood days and many years of his manhood in Pennsylvania, being fifty-one years of age when he left the State. While there he made farming his principal avocation, though he was engaged for a short time in the lumber and shingle business. Nov. 9, 1872, he came to Iowa, locating in Floyd County, purchasing the farm of 160 acres where he still resides, on section 22, one and one-half miles southeast of Marble Rock. To his first purchase he has added 245 acres, making a farm of 405 acres lying all in one body. This is one of Floyd County's best farms, being of the best quality of soil, and under a splendid state of cultivation. His residence is also beautifully situated, being located upon the public thoroughfare, and within a few rods of the railroad track, where the daily passing trains relieve the usual monotony of farm life. Mr. Carney was married in Pennsylvania in 1847, to Mary A. Shook, a native of Pennsylvania. Their family consists of nine children living and two deceased—Mary Elizabeth, died at the age



of nine years and nine months, Nov. 5, 1860; Sarah J., now the wife of David Eikenberry, resides in Butler County; Clarissa Violetta, died in 1865, at the age of eleven; Harriet, married John Flora, resides also in Butler County, Ia.; Clara Emma, now visiting friends in Pennsylvania; George A., Albert W., Miles B., David C., Daniel C. and Andrew. The seven younger children still reside at home. All the family were born in Pennsylvania except the youngest son. Mr. Carney voted for James K. Polk for President when a young man, and has since adhered to the principles of the Democratic party. Mr. Carney has for the past twenty-eight years been a member of the Brethren church.

*T. S. Clark* was born in Erie County, N. Y., in 1840. He was the sixth child of Job and Rhoda J. Clark. At about the age of twelve he moved with his parents to Jackson County, Iowa, where they remained about sixteen years, when they came to Floyd County, Iowa. Mr. Clark made his home with his father, farming his place till he was about twenty-five years of age. In the year 1864 he purchased forty acres of land a mile and a half east of Marble Rock. This land he ran his face for. He broke up and put in wheat twenty-seven acres, which crop paid for the land, breaking and fencing, with some money left. At this time he lived in Marble Rock. The year following he sold this land and ran his face again for 160 acres near the first place. Upon this he moved and lived twelve years. During this time he paid for his farm, but lost some money in trying to make money by running a threshing machine. In June, 1879, he sold this farm and bought 560 acres where he now resides, four miles south of Marble Rock. His farming is principally corn, oats and timothy, having in crop usually 400 acres, keeping all the way from thirty-five to seventy-five head of cattle, and more hogs than we can count, sometimes has as high as 300 head. Mr. Clark was married in 1864 to Miss Mary Edna Wallace, daughter of John Wallace, one of Floyd County's pioneers. Their family consists of five children—Dora Anna, Nellie, Mirtie, Job and George B. Mr. Clark is not only among the big farmers of the county, but is one of its early and highly respected citizens. Politically he is a Republican.

*Dr. C. J. Clark* was born in Canada, June 15, 1834. When about two years of age his parents moved to Buffalo, N. Y., where Dr. Clark made his home till he was nineteen years of age. When sixteen years of age he entered the Abbilt Academy, and graduated at the age of nineteen. Upon the completion of his studies

he at once commenced the study of medicine under the tutorage of Dr. T. T. Lockwood, at that time Mayor of the city of Buffalo. Dr. Clark attended medical lectures at the Ralph Medical College, Toronto, Canada. He commenced the practice of medicine in Hamilton, Canada, in 1856. Here he practiced till 1858, when he took a course of lectures in the Albany Medical College, N. Y. This done, he resumed the practice of medicine in New York, where he remained a short time, when he returned to Hamilton, Canada, and again commenced practice. Here he remained in a fine practice till 1863, when he went into the service of the Government as a contract surgeon. Here he remained till the termination of the war, when he came to Iowa, locating first in Dyersville, Dubuque County, where he practiced medicine three years. The year following he spent in Bremer County, Ia. In 1869 he became a citizen and practicing physician of Floyd County. The first year was spent at Nora Springs; the year following he moved to Marble Rock, where he is still doing a fine practice. Since coming here he has been in constant practice, except the college season of 1879-'80, when he was surgeon in charge in Bennett's Hospital, Chicago, Ill. Here he also received a diploma of M. D. Dr. Clark was married in Canada, in 1853, and has three children—Lora B., married, is proprietor of a drug store in Marble Rock, the largest in the county; Mattie, now the wife of H. C. Darland, a resident of Marble Rock, formerly a school-teacher and merchant; Mittie, a little daughter seven years of age. Dr. Clark is a member of the order of Odd Fellows. Politically he is a Republican. In 1876 he lost his wife, and is now living with his second wife, formerly Carrie Van Myers.

*Clark & Kendall*, proprietors of the largest drug store in Floyd County, situated in Marble Rock; formed the partnership May 1, 1882. Mr. L. B. Clark, the former owner of the stock, opened a drug store in Marble Rock in 1878. This he ran only about six months, when he was unluckily burnt out, losing his entire stock, dwelling, household goods and photograph gallery, leaving him \$500 worse than nothing. Just eleven days from this catastrophe he was again established in the drug business, by buying a drug store of J. W. Martin, in company with A. R. Van Myers, with whom he carried on business till his death, which occurred about eighteen months afterward. At this event Mr. Clark bought his partner's interest in the stock, and continued in business alone till

he took in his present partner. Mr. Clark was born in Canada May 1, 1855; came to the United States Sept. 1, 1865, locating first in Dubuque County, Ia. He became a citizen of Floyd County in 1870. Prior to engaging in the drug business he attended school principally. He was married Nov. 2, 1877, to L. A. Baldon. They have one son—Harlie R., six months old. J. P. Kendall was born in Wapello County, Ia., in 1858; became a citizen of Floyd County in 1870; was married in 1876 to Mary C. Mumford, of Wisconsin. They have one child—Guy M., now five years of age.

*U. A. Collison* was born in Canada, Sept. 2, 1844; here he made his home till the year 1862, when he went to Rockford, Ill., and remained till 1865, when he came to Marble Rock, this county, where he has since resided. He learned the blacksmith and wagon maker's trade in Canada with his grandfather, John Shaver; he learned also the joiner's trade in that country. These avocations he pursued there about six years. While in Illinois he worked in a sash and door factory eighteen months. After becoming a citizen of Marble Rock he engaged in the carpenter and joiner's trade, and continued it for about eleven years, contracting and running a force of hands most of the time during the summer months; two years, during the winter months, found him in the cabinet shop of C. D. Kendley. In the year 1877 he again resumed his avocation of blacksmithing and wagon-making, at which we find him still employed, in company with C. Brown, whom he took in as a partner about ten months ago. They not only do a large business in repairing, but turn out a great deal of new work in different styles of buggies and wagons. Mr. Collison is proficient in all there is of his trade. Think we are safe in saying he is the only man in the county who is the possessor of three trades. Mr. Collison is said to be doing the largest business of the kind in the county, his customers numbering over 300. Mr. Collison was married in Marble Rock, Dec. 27, 1865, to Miss Almira Johnson, who has been a resident of this county twenty-three years. They have two children—Kittie Gertrude and Charles A., aged fourteen years and fifteen months, respectively.

*James Conner* was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in April, 1826. He was the fifth child of James and Mary Ann Conner. Mr. Conner made New York State his home till 1864, when he came to Iowa, locating in Cerro Gordo County, where he remained about seven years, engaged in farming. In this county he bought

two farms, which he still owns. They are situated two miles apart, in Doherty Township, each containing 160 acres, and under a fine state of cultivation and improvement. In the year 1875 he rented his farms and came to Marble Rock, where he has since resided, and has been mail conductor for the past five years, and has never missed a trip. Mr. Conner enlisted in New York State in 1862 in Company I, Scott's Nine Hundred United States Volunteer Cavalry. For two weeks after his enlistment he was engaged as a recruiting officer and received the enlistment of twenty one soldiers. When he reported at headquarters there was no transportation, and he took them to New York City at his own expense. For this exhibition of patriotism, together with many others of Mr. Conner, he was honored with the position of Orderly Sergeant, but of this he never accepted, for the reason that he felt all such honors would better become a man who had won them in actual service. Mr. Conner had scarcely been in the army two weeks when he was taken sick with the black measles; lay in the hospital about three months, when he was discharged. To show the severity of the disease we remark here that when Mr. Conner was taken sick his weight was 165 and his hair and beard were black as a raven's wing; inside of thirty days his hair and whiskers turned as white as snow, and his weight when discharged and dressed in uniform was only 102 lbs. When he returned home he was a stranger, so to speak, to his nearest neighbors; many would remark that they had certainly seen him but could not place him. Mr. Conner was never expected back to the army, but after remaining at home about one year he felt himself sufficiently recovered to go back and fight rebels again. He enlisted in 1863 in Company H, Eleventh New York Cavalry. He remained in the army till the close of the war, it being about one year; was discharged at Memphis, Tenn., October, 1864. Mr. Conner's army experience was one indeed of great interest. It was so varied that we may say it ran from the pleasantest to the most severe hardship. Those who are acquainted with the history of Scott's Nine Hundred know that they were organized to protect the United States Capitol. So choice were they in the selection of these troops and horses that the men were nearly of one age, while each company's horses were of the same weight and color. Mr. Conner's company had jet black horses, without a single white hair, and all weighing 1,100 pounds, not varying five pounds. This was indeed a brief military holiday. They were dressed in

the best the Government could afford, and with well-blackened boots and clean-brushed clothes they spent several pleasant weeks, which, of course, aroused the envy of those less fortunate. By the judgment of the head officers they were sent to the front. They were ordered to Texas, but upon arriving at New Orleans they were ordered to hunt guerrillas, the most dangerous part of army life. The rest of their army life was spent in wading through swamps and jungles, placing themselves as a target for the sharpshooter. Mr. Conner relates the circumstances of a raid he was on in connection with Sherman's march to the sea. They numbered 30,000, and by a peculiar practice of military tactics they were kept wading the swamps in ambush as much as possible. They survived for four days without a bite to eat except leaves and buds of trees. Their horses became fatigued and died by the dozen, while many of them mired and drowned. Three hundred negroes followed them into this swamp. Their fate was fearful. At the end of the fifth day's journey there were only two remaining with them, the rest either starving to death or drowning or miring. It is supposed that but few ever lived to get out. The most of these negroes were riding mules, but one by one they disappeared and the mules followed on, and came very handy to those who lost their horses. Mr. Conner was married in January, 1847, in New York State, to Miss Rozilla Ingerson, a native of New York. They have only one child living—Amelia, married to John Stewart, and resides in Cerro Gordo County. It was not party spirit but true royal patriotism that caused him to fight for his country so tenaciously. He has been a life-long Democrat, and a strong advocater of supporting the Constitution. For county officers he wisely votes for the best man.

*F. Crocker* was born in Grafton County, N. H., April 9, 1834. He was a son of Benjamin S. and Eliza Jane (Howe) Crocker. At the age of eleven Mr. Crocker moved with his parents to Lake County, Ill., which he called his home till 1863, though for thirteen years he was a sailor on the lakes; six or seven years of this time he sailed before the mast; afterward promoted to second mate, then to first mate, which position he occupied about four years; at the expiration of this time he was appointed to take charge of a vessel. This position he continued in during the balance of the time. When he commenced this life he was but thirteen years of age, and was away from home three years on his first trip. In February, 1863, he became a citizen of Floyd County

spending the first two years on rented land, at the end of which time he purchased forty acres on Flood Creek, S Charles Township, and resided on it about one year, when he sold it and bought another forty acres on the same creek, but in Union Township. On this he lived about one year, when he sold it and bought eighty acres, two and one-half miles northeast of Marble Rock. Upon this he built a house, and made it his home about eighteen months, when he sold and moved to Marble Rock, and rented a farm one year. In the year of 1869 he bought the farm of 120 acres where he still resides, two and one-half miles southeast of Marble Rock. This is one of Floyd County's best farms, being all under good cultivation, and of the best quality of soil, and raises as good crops as are raised in the county. Mr. Crocker was married May 22, 1859, in the city of Kenosha, Wis., to Pathina E. Porter, a native of New York State. They have a family of three children living, and one deceased—Frankie, the wife of James Reans, resides in Greene, Butler County; Willis and Willie were twins (Willis died at about the age of fourteen and one half, July 22, 1879; Willie lives with his father); Birdie J., the youngest, now about six years of age. Mr. Crocker is a Republican and an out and out Prohibitionist. He is also a member of the order of Freemasons.

*W. O. Crumb* was born in New York in 1838; at about the age of twelve, he moved with his father, E. Crumb, to Indiana, where W. O. made his home till 1862, when he came to Iowa. He spent the first fifteen years farming, the first five years as a renter, afterward purchased a farm in Scott. In 1880 he engaged in the restaurant business in Marble Rock, at which avocation we still find him, doing a pleasant business. Mr. Crumb was married July 26, 1856, to Miss Hannah J. Claypool, a native of Michigan. They have five children—Loretta A., Mary O., Irving O., Lydia L. and George L. Loretta married Godfrey Reihn, and resides in Scott Township. Mary is the wife of Robert Fletcher, residents of Scott Township. The rest of the children still make their father's house their home. Mr. Crumb is a member of the I. O. O. F., and is politically a Republican. Was in an early day Constable, and one of the first officers elected in Scott Township. One time he held five offices, for the reason there were more offices than men in the township, viz.: Assessor, Trustee, Sub-Director President and Secretary of the Board of Directors.

*Benjamin Darland* was born in Nicholas County, Ky., May 24, 1807. When about four years of age, he moved with his

father, Isaac Darland, to Preble County, O. Here Mr. Darland made his home the majority of the time till he moved to Illinois, which was in 1836. Mr. Darland learned the latter's trade in Richmond, Ind. He afterward worked at the trade in Greenville, Ohio, three years, and eleven years in Fulton County, Ill. At the expiration of this time he moved to Kane County, Ill., and rented land about three years, when he purchased a farm and made it his home about five years. In 1855 he came to Floyd County, Iowa. In the spring of 1855 he entered 320 acres of land; upon this land he moved in 1856, where he made his home till 1873, when he sold, and has since made no permanent place his home, spending most of his time visiting friends in the East, making his home with his sons, in Iowa. Mr. Darland's family consists of five children living, and five deceased; two died in infancy, their names were Isaac and Mathew, deaths occurring at Batavia, Ill. J. W. is married and in the dry-goods business in Marble Rock; Charles died at Marble Rock, in 1867, aged fifteen years; Frances is now the wife of J. L. Secor, and resides in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, near Sheffield; Frank was killed at the battle of Blue Mills, Mo., Sept. 17, 1861, aged twenty-one years; Catherine married Mr. Chas. F. Greenwood, and resides in DeKalb County, Ill.; Maria, wife of W. Brubaker, died in Chicago, April 14, 1879; Frank was killed in the army in 1861; Julia married Jesse Beelar, and resides in Verndale, Minn.; Henry, married and resides in Marble Rock. Of Mr. Darland we cannot refrain from speaking as those who know him best. He has not only been identified with this county's interests from a very early date, but is interested still in the history whose foundations he helped lay. Has always been a life-long Republican, though never an office-seeking man. In Illinois he held the office of County Supervisor two years, in this county, has been a member of the Board of Supervisors two years; and was a member of the Iowa Legislature the year 1874, it being the Fifteenth General Assembly. These positions he acceptably filled besides others of his township and county, such as member of the Board of Trustees, Supervisor; etc. He is a man who always throws his influence on the side that has for its motto: The advancement of the country and the morality of its citizens, and was a decided friend to the Amendment.

*J. W. Darland* was born in Greenville, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1833, He is a son of Benjamin Darland, whose sketch will be found in this work. At about the age of three he moved with his parents

to Fulton County, Ill., where he resided about ten years, attending school most of the time. At the expiration of this time the family moved to Kane County, and remained about four years. Here he assisted his father on the farm. They then moved to De Kalb County, Ill., where Mr. Darland spent three years upon his father's farm. Oct. 5, 1855, his father's family moved to Marble Rock, this county. Mr. Darland made his home with his father, and worked upon his farm till 1860, when he went to Muscatine and taught school the winter of 1860, near Muscatine. The following summer he spent upon a farm. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Second Illinois Light Artillery; was mustered out at the end of three years, but immediately re-enlisted, at Columbus, Ky., in same company, and remained till the close of the war, being mustered out Oct. 4, 1865, at Springfield, Ill. He was indeed one of the Government's most faithful and profitable servants; was never taken prisoner, nor in the hospital, nor wounded, though he participated in ten hard-fought battles—Union City, Tenn.; Coffeeville, Miss.; Tupelo, Miss.; Old Town Creek, Miss.; Brownsville; Siege of Vicksburg; two days' battle of Nashville; Spanish Fort; Tallahachie, Miss. He returned from the army to Marble Rock and clerked the following six months for Hiram Rosenkrans. In the spring of 1866 he went into the mercantile business himself, in Marble Rock, which he continued two years, and then went to Aureola, and remained in the mercantile business two years, when he returned to Marble Rock, and continued in the same business till 1878, when he sold his stock and went to Chicago, and engaged in the grocery business, remaining in the city about one year, at the expiration of which time he returned to Iowa, locating in Greene, Butler County, where he engaged in the hotel business about one year. Sept. 1, 1880, he returned to Marble Rock, and opened up a fine general store, which business we find him still pursuing, very successfully indeed. He has all his life made friends, and is to-day enjoying the highest respect of the community as a straightforward and honorable business man. Mr. Darland was married Dec. 22, 1866, to Josephine Frost, daughter of Robert Frost, one of Floyd County's first pioneers, coming to the county in 1854. 'Twas he who built the first saw-mill in Union Township. It served its day as a good mill, but is lately neglected for want of timber. It stands to-day on the east bank of Shell Rock, at Aureola, as a monument of early days. Mrs. Darland was born in Kane County, Ill., in 1843, and came to Iowa at the age of eleven. Their family



consists of three children—Charles A., Harry C., and Clarence, ages, fourteen, twelve and ten respectively. Mr. Darland is a member of the Odd Fellows and Freemasons. He is Master of the Masonic lodge, which position he has been elected to for five years. Politically he is a Republican—never votes any other ticket. His first vote was for John C. Fremont. Mr. Darland enlisted as a private; at the end of six months he was promoted to Corporal—then to Quartermaster Sergeant—then First Sergeant, and was promoted to the commission of Second Lieutenant Aug. 22, 1864, which position he held till he was mustered out.

*Egbert Davis* was born in New York State in 1831, where he remained till he was twenty-three years of age, engaged in dairying and farming. He was the seventh child of Philip and Katurah Davis. In 1854 Mr. Davis went to Illinois, where he remained one year, when he came to Floyd County and has since resided, with the exception of three years, which he spent in Hamilton County. He resides on section 20, Union Township, upon a farm he purchased in 1870. Mr. Davis was married in Union Township, this county, in the spring of 1857, to Miss Fannie M. Ackley, a native of New York State. Their family consists of six living children—Jennette Amelia, married Alven Harden, and resides near Mason City, Ia.; James A., Nina A., E. S., Charles E. and Rutherford B. Hayes still make their father's house their home. Though never an aspirant for office he has always taken an active interest in politics and votes the straight Republican ticket.

*H. Garber* was born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1838. At about the age of fourteen he moved with his father, Joseph Garber, to Clayton County, Iowa, where he made his home till Aug. 20, 1862, when he enlisted in Company D, Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry; served his country three years lacking twelve days, being mustered out Aug. 10, 1865, at Clinton; was in the hospital only twenty days during this time; was never wounded nor taken prisoner. He and his brother Joseph and three cousins enlisted in the same company and at the same date, and all came out unscathed except his brother, who was discharged in about six months after enlistment, and returned home and died finally of disease contracted in the army. Mr. Garber's army life was the experience of a faithful soldier. Participated in many engagements; a few we give below: Little Rock, Ark.; Fort Derussa, Pleasant Hill, Yellow Bayou, Tupelo, battle of Nashville, Fort Spanish and Fort Blakely at Mobile, Ala. After his return from

the army he joined his father's family who, in the spring of 1865, moved to Floyd County, where H. Garber has since resided with the exception of the year 1874, which he spent in Clayton County. Mr. Garber was married July 31, 1867, to Miss Electa A. Wallace, daughter of John Wallace, of Marble Rock. They have two children living—Max and Louella, ages five and three respectively.

*Charles Gates* was born in Germany in 1830; came to America in 1852, stopping the first three years in Rochester, N. Y.; Sept. 17, 1855, he landed in Marble Rock, and has since been a citizen of the county. He made Marble Rock his home till 1860; when he went there the town had just been laid out, and was all in timbered brush. Mr. Gates helped to clear it, and lay the first foundation to its history and prosperity. In 1856 Mr. Gates entered forty acres in Union Township, which he farmed till 1860, when he sold, and purchased eighty acres, where he still resides, about three miles south of Marble Rock; in 1860 he moved upon this farm, and has since made it his home. Mr. Gates has, in several different purchases, added to his first, till now he owns 640 acres, besides eighty acres he gave to his son Charles, who now resides in Greene. The number of acres and the natural fine location and the splendid state of cultivation and improvement which the farm is under, make it one of the largest and best farms in the county. Mr. Gates is one of the few pioneers of this county who has started at the bottom round in the financial ladder, and by his own exertions and prudence earned for himself a property that makes him independent. And, in addition to this, he has given by his life a lesson to young men that is well worthy of imitation. He bears the highest respect of all his acquaintances and neighbors, and has raised a family that is a credit to any father. Mr. Gates was married in Rochester, N. Y., in 1855, to Miss Julia Kasy, a native of Ireland. The names of their children are: Charles, a merchant in Greene; Henry is a farmer in Union Township; George, a merchant in Greene; Albert makes his home with his father, and is engaged in farming. Mr. Gates is a member of the Presbyterian church, and politically is a sound Republican.

*John Gates* was born in Germany in 1827; came to America in 1850, spending the first four years in New York State. In 1854 he became a citizen of Floyd County, locating at Nora Springs, where he spent six months; thence to Marble Rock, where he worked at the blacksmith's trade about five years. While residing in Marble Rock he purchased eighty acres, where now he resides, about two

miles southeast of Marble Rock; has added to his first purchase till he now owns 400 acres of Floyd County's best land, principally under cultivation. He has put in crop usually about 370 acres. Besides this farm he owns about 200 acres, in addition to 160 acres he gave his son. Mr. Gates usually keeps from forty to fifty head of cattle and twenty head of horses, and 200 head of sheep. Mr. Gates was married in 1852 to Jane Hoy, a native of America. They have three children—Fredric E., married Cora Russel, and farms in Union Township; Katie A. and Ella, both single and at home. Politically Mr. Gates is a Republican; has held in Union Township the office of Township Cashier, and is now the Justice of the Peace, and has been for the past six years, besides other minor offices. He is a member of the Protestant Evangelical church.

*Martin Gates* was born in Germany in 1828; came to America in 1851, locating first in New York State, where he remained about three years, working as a farm hand. In 1855 he came to Iowa, and located in Marble Rock, where he spent the first four years. Those years were spent in working by the day for the neighbors. In 1856 he entered forty acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. Not being satisfied with the land, he sold it at an advance of \$2.75 per acre. In 1859 he bought ninety acres along Shell Rock River, in Union Township. To this farm he added different purchases till he owned 250 acres. Upon this farm he lived till the fall of 1881, when he moved to Marble Rock, the spring previous having sold it entire to Mr. Benjamin Bowman for \$6,000. The same summer he bought a farm of 120 acres in same township, near his old farm. He also owns eighty acres on section 31, same township, and only one-half mile from his 120-acre farm. The 120 acres is farmed by his son-in-law, William Preston. The eighty Mr. Gates farms himself, with the assistance of a hand. Mr. Gates does what is considered a mixed farming, keeping about one dozen cows and about fifty hogs, though he has kept as high as 200 hogs. In June, 1881, he purchased an entirely new stock of hardware, and opened a fine hardware store in Marble Rock. It has been our pleasure to visit the store, and must say it presents a very good appearance, embracing every seeming want of the farmer, from nails and tools to any farming implement they might desire. Mr. Gates was married in New York State in 1854, to Miss Catharine Casy, a native of Ireland. They have three children—Andrew, married, and in the hardware business with his father; John, also in the hardware

business; Eliza, the only daughter, married William Preston. Of Mr. Gates we cannot refrain from speaking in the following language: He is a man who has started from the lowest financial round in the ladder, and has, by his own exertions, wrung from the hard hand of toil a home and business and independence well worthy the pride of any man, and has by so doing given an example quite worthy of imitation, besides rearing a family of children who promise to make the best of citizens. He has the good words and best wishes of all who know him, and those who know him best are loudest in their praises.

*Diebold Gerhard* was born in Germany in 1826. He was a son of John and Lizzie (Kohlman) Gerhard. At about the age of twenty-seven he came to America, stopping in Wheeling, W. Va., and remaining about five months; from thence to Illinois, where he made his home about eleven years. In 1866 he came to Iowa, locating in Floyd County. The first three years he rented land of John Gates. At the expiration of this time he bought the farm of eighty acres, where he still resides, on section 26, Union Township, paying \$10 per acre. Has since bought forty additional acres joining his original eighty acres; for this he paid \$25 per acre. Upon this farm he built himself a fine house in the year 1870, and a nice barn in 1877. His farm is all under good improvement and first class cultivation. They have indeed a beautiful home. The buildings and surroundings are such that he has one of the grandest homes in the Northwest. He does his farming principally himself, and usually has it all in crop, besides keeping about twenty-three head of cattle and about forty head of hogs, and horses enough to carry on his farming. Mr. Gerhard was married in Illinois, in 1860, to Frederica Hoffman, born in Germany in 1830, and came to this country in 1860. She was a daughter of Paul and Lena Hoffman. Her father died in Germany in 1859. Her mother came with her to America. Mr. Gerhard's family consists of three sons and two daughters — Chrisena, married John Maxson and resides in Union Township; William is a clerk in Greene; Julia, George and Nicholas are single, and reside at home. Mr. Gerhard is a member of the Lutheran church, and Mrs. Gerhard of the Methodist church. Politically he is a Democrat.

*John Goodmiller* was born in Illinois in 1844. Here he made his home till he was about twenty-eight years of age. He was a son of Michael and Doratha (Keck) Goodmiller, both natives of

Germany. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, the Old Lead Mine Regiment; served his country three years, participating in many hard battles; a few of the more prominent ones we give: Vicksburg, Jackson, the Atlanta campaign, with Sherman on his march to the sea; was wounded in left forearm with a gunshot at the battle of Vicksburg, siege of forty-eight, and was off duty with the same about three months. After his return from the army he resumed his avocation as a farmer, where his prominence as a good and worthy citizen was appreciated by his fellow-men, by electing him to the offices of Justice of the Peace, Collector and Township Clerk. In 1873 he became a citizen of Floyd County. The first five years he rented land. In 1878 he purchased the farm of 100 acres, where he still resides, about one mile south east of Marble Rock, beautifully situated and located, and under a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Goodmiller was married in 1868 to Miss E. M. Pulley, a native of Ohio. They have six children—Wellington G., Arthur M., Homer, Preston, Elmer and Lorey. Politically he is a Republican.

*Byron P. Greenwood* was born in De Kalb County, Ill., Sept. 26, 1855, where he made his home on the farm with his father, Charles F. Greenwood, till he was twenty-three years of age, when he came to Marble Rock, this county, where his father purchased a stock of dry goods in company with J. W. Darland. Under the firm name of Darland & Greenwood they continued in business about six months, when Mr. C. F. Greenwood purchased his partner's interest. B. P. Greenwood has since been conducting the business alone under the name of C. F. Greenwood. He has a fine, clean stock, and an assortment that should please the most fastidious, and is doing a business of \$8,000 yearly. His live and let live principles, together with his prompt dealing, have won for him a reputation worthy the pride of any young man. Mr. Greenwood was married in Marble Rock, Jan. 14, 1880, to Miss Minnie Winchill, a native of Iowa. Politically we find Mr. Greenwood Republican.

*Isaac Halstead* was born in Indiana in 1833. When only a child his parents moved to Michigan, where he lived till he was twenty-one years of age, when he married and moved to Lynn County, Ia., and stopped about six months, when he came to Floyd County. He moved upon a farm that he purchased in Union Township, about one mile east of Marble Rock. Here they resided till the year 1857, when their residence was destroyed by fire. In-

stead of rebuilding on the farm, they built a fine residence in the present village of Marble Rock. Here Mr. Halstead resided and carried on his farm till his death, which occurred in 1877. He was married in Michigan, in 1854, to Miss Eliza J. Denewd, a native of Indiana, but a resident of Michigan. They raised one child—Florence Idel, married to Julius Haynes, a merchant in Marble Rock.

*E. B. Haynes, M. D.*, was born in Guilford, Windham County, Vt., Aug. 9, 1827, where he made his home till he was about twenty-four years of age, when he went to Massachusetts and spent about four years in the pursuit of an education principally. At this date he went to Wisconsin, where he remained about ten years, dividing his time between farming and the practice of medicine. He became a citizen of Floyd County, April 3, 1866. He located in Marble Rock, Union Township, and at once commenced the practice of medicine, which avocation we find him very successfully engaged in still. Dr. Haynes commenced the study of medicine under the instructions of an eminent physician in Chester, Vt., named Dr. Chase, with whom he remained three years, studying and practicing medicine. He attended medical lectures at Comstock, and commenced the practice of medicine in New Chester, Wis., in 1856. The Doctor practices under the eclectic system, having previously acquainted himself with the allopathy and homeopathy systems. Of Dr. Haynes as a physician and gentleman we can but speak as his neighbors, that he is always found equal to the emergency, and by his faithful care has won a position in the hearts of his neighbors and friends that will scarcely be eradicated by time. Dr. Haynes was married in Bernardston, Mass., Nov. 7, 1848, the day Zack Taylor was elected President of the United States, to Miss Julia J. Hunt, a native of Vermont, born March 7, 1832. They have a family of three sons—Julius E., now thirty-two years of age, married and in the dry-goods business in Marble Rock; Jewett S., now twenty-three years of age, married and in business with his brother, and Justine H., a bright-eyed boy of thirteen years of age, who makes things lively at home. Dr. Haynes is a member of the order of Freemasons.

*Jacob Hoffman* was born in Owen County, Ind., March 8, 1838. He was a son of Wm. and Katie (Houwke) Hoffman. When Mr. Hoffman was fourteen years of age he came to Iowa, locating in Buffalo County, where he made his home twenty years. He was among the very first to settle that county. In the fall of 1882 he

became a citizen of Floyd County, and bought at that time 160 acres, where he still resides. At this date it was raw prairie, He has since brought it under a fine state of cultivation and the best of improvements. His house and surroundings are indeed pleasant. It can be said of Mr. Hoffman, that he has caused the desert to blossom as the rose. He sold forty acres of this before improving it, at considerable of an advance of the price paid. Mr. Hoffman carries on quite a stroke of farming besides keeping considerable stock; keeps about twenty head of cattle and seven head of horses, and usually keeps from forty to sixty, has kept as high as 160. Mr. Hoffman was married in 1864 to Clarinda Kendell, immediately after his return from the army. He enlisted in 1861, in Company D, Fifteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Colonels Reed and Bellknap were the commanding officers; Captain Madison was his first Captain. Mr. Hoffman was wounded at the battle of Atlanta on the morning of the 22d of May, receiving a gun-shot wound in the right groin, the ball passing clear through, another lodging in his right leg just above the knee; another lodged in the left arm above the elbow, while another cut its depth across the top of his left shoulder. At this charge he had fourteen bullet holes pass through his clothing in different places. He had his musket shot out of his hands, three balls passing through it at once cutting it off at each of the bands. Through the effects of these wounds he lay in the hospital as a patient for about one year, under the care of physicians. For five months he lay with ice water dropping upon him to prevent mortification. He participated before this in fourteen hard-fought battles. Mr. Hoffman veteraned and returned to the army and accompanied Sherman on his march to the sea. He was mustered out the fall after the close of the war. Mr. Hoffman's army life, consisting of three years and three months, was one indeed long to be remembered. He certainly deserves the highest respect and admiration of every patriotic man, woman and child. He is a man of no boastful qualities, but takes his position as a humble citizen. Mr. Hoffman has always been a Democrat, though he votes for the best men for county officers.

*Christopher Hofmeister*, deceased, was born in Germany, May 6, 1810. On the 18th of June, 1847, he came to America, stopping for a few days in Milwaukee, thence to Dodge County, Wis., where he lived about seventeen years. In 1864 he moved to Chickasaw County, Ia., where he remained till 1869, when he be-

came a citizen of Floyd County. His first purchase was in Ulster Township, where he lived about eighteen months. In 1871 he bought the farm where his son Henry now lives, on section 3, Union Township. There was in this farm, at the original purchase, 240 acres, but he sold an eighty about two years after his purchase. He repaired the house and made what improvements the farm possesses to-day, and made it his home till his death, which occurred July 29, 1879, leaving a family of four children, and one deceased—Fredric, who resides in Kansas, married and has a family; Christian died in the army in 1864, at about the age of twenty-five; he was single; Johannah married C. H. Stapher and resides in Chickasaw County, Ia.; Christopher W. is a resident of Kansas; Henry, the fifth child, bought the old homestead, and there resides; he was married in 1880 to Emma L. Ponto, a native of Wisconsin. They have one child—Lydia, now fifteen months of age. Mr. H. Hofmeister was born in 1855, and Mrs. Hofmeister in 1862. Both are members of the Methodist church. Politically we find Mr. Hofmeister a Democrat. Mrs. Christopher Hofmeister is still living, and resides in Kansas, at the advanced age of seventy-one.

*I. M. Hutches* was born in Steuben County, N. Y., in 1840. Until his father's death, which occurred in May, 1860, he was engaged principally in the pursuit of an education. From this date till about 1869 he remained on the farm, and engaged in the stock business, in connection with farming. At the expiration of this time he went to Livingston County, and engaged in the milling business, in a mill in which he had purchased a third interest. In the fall of 1873 he went to Iowa; stopped first in Cedar Falls, and came to Marble Rock the following spring, where he purchased a half interest in an elevator, with George Luce, and continued in the grain business about five years. In 1879 a joint stock company was formed in the business between J. B. Shepardson, George B. Vansun and I. M. Hutches, which firm is still in existence and doing a good business, handling in the neighborhood of 200,000 bushels yearly. I. M. Hutches has the entire control of the business in buying and selling. He was married in New York, in 1861, to Miss Cynthea King. They have one child—James L., now nineteen years of age. Mr. Hutches is a member of the I. O. O. F.; has been a life-long Republican and a sound Prohibitionist. Though not an aspirant for office, he has been elected Township Trustee and Alderman of the town.



*H. C. Inman* was born in Kane County, Ill., in 1836. He was a son of Lorain and Lucy (Carpenter) Inman. Mr. Lorain Inman died at Marble Rock in 1878. Mrs. Inman is still living, and makes her home with her son, H. C. Inman. Mr. H. C. was the oldest of the family of eight children; Joseph, the second son, died in the army at Memphis, Tenn., in January, 1862, at the age of twenty-two; Alonzo, the third son, resides in Union Township, Ephraim, the fourth, resides also in Union Township, this county; Marinda resides in Brainerd, Minn.; Dora married Mr. S. H. Waist, a resident of Minneapolis, Minn. Two children died in infancy. This family was one of Floyd County's first settlers, coming to Marble Rock in 1858, where the most of them have since resided. Since coming to Iowa Mr. H. C. Inman has turned his attention considerably to farming, though he has taught several terms of school, and held the office of County Surveyor five years. For about three and a half years he owned a half-interest in the Osceola Grist-Mill, which time he was engaged to some extent in running the mill. The confinement and heat was quite detrimental to his health, which was the principal cause of his selling the property and moving upon the farm. Though in impaired health somewhat, we find him very pleasantly situated on a farm of 160 acres, within about one and one-half miles of Marble Rock. Mr. Inman was married in 1867 to Miss Sarah E. McCallom, of Amesville, Ohio. They have no family. He is a member of the order of Freemasons and Odd Fellows, and was for many years a member of the Good Templars. Politically Mr. Inman is a Republican, and though not an aspirant for office, always has taken an active interest in the political issues of the day; is the present Assessor of the township, and has held that position three fourths of the time since coming to Iowa. Mr. Inman has been a member of the Free Baptist church the past twenty-eight years. Has held the office of Secretary of the School Board for about fourteen years.

*E. Inman* was born Sept. 1, 1846, in Kane County, Ill. He was the fourth son of Lorain and Lucy (Carpenter) Inman came to Floyd County, Iowa, with his parents in 1858, locating near Marble Rock, Union Township, where he has since resided; is now residing upon the old homestead. Mr. Inman was married in 1867, in Charles City, to Miss Harriet Clay. They have five children—Lewis J., Harry E., Harvey E., Nellie L. and Lucy. Mr. Inman is a member of no secret society. Politically he is a Republican.

*A. Inman* was born in Kane County, Ill., June 24, 1842. He was the third son of Lorain and Lucy (Carpenter) Inman, who came to this county in 1858, where most of the family still reside. Mr. A. Inman was married in October, 1869, in Charles City, by Elder Casbier to Miss C. E. Waist, a native of Vermont. They have two children—Lorain W. and Martha Esther, ages twelve and six respectively. Mr. Inman bought his farm of eighty acres, where he resides, about two miles southwest of Marble Rock, in 1870. He has recently made a purchase of eighty acres, adjoining his original farm. This is one of Floyd County's good farms. The natural fine drainage and good quality of the soil cannot be excelled anywhere. Though not an aspirant for office himself, he has always taken an active interest in politics, and voted the Republican ticket. In the day of Good Templars he was an active member. M Inman is a member of the Free-Will Baptist church and has been for the past twenty years.

*Judge W. H. Johnson*, deceased, was born in Deersville, O., Feb. 29, 1824. He received a collegiate education, and read law in that State. When about twenty-eight years of age he went to Michigan and engaged in the practice of law a short time. About the year 1854 he went to Boylan's Grove, Butler County, Ia., and remained a short time, when he came to Floyd County, locating in Marble Rock, where he remained in the practice of law till his death, which occurred June 14, 1879, his disease being consumption. Judge Johnson lived an energetic and useful life, and had the best wishes of the community always at heart. As an attorney he was always found to be manly strong, and honest, securing the utmost confidence of his clients and respect of his opponents. As a notary public his papers of conveyance and transfers are invariably reliable and correct. As a politician he was a straight-forward Republican, and took an active interest in the live issues of the day though never an aspirant for office himself. In the year 1862 he was elected County Judge, which position he filled acceptably. While a resident of Michigan, in the year 1854, he married his first wife, Susan Sly, who died in January, 1863, leaving a family of four children, one of whom has since died. The names of the surviving ones are Josephine, married John Ryan, a telegraph operator at Riverside, Ia.; Kelso W., single and at this writing residing in Rockford; Cleopatra, now the wife of Charles Smith, a dry-goods clerk at Riverside. Judge Johnson married his

second wife, Mrs. Clarissa Miller, in Marble Rock in the year of 1867. To them was born one daughter—Florence M., now thirteen years of age. Mrs. Clarissa Miller, Mr. Johnson's second wife was married to Mr. Elias G. Miller in 1856. He enlisted in Company G, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1862. He served his country as a faithful soldier, till he was taken away through the hardships of army life, his death occurring at Benton, Ark., Dec. 12, 1863, it being the day his youngest son was two years of age. He left a family of three children—Lizzie, the eldest, married Maurice Bunnell and resides at Osceola, Clarke County, Ia.; the second child, Minerva, married Elvin Tape, a jeweler of Rockford; David E. is in the mining business in Colorado.

*William A. Judd* was born in Strafford, Orange County, Vt., July 9, 1817. Here he made his home with his father, Ira Judd, till he was nineteen years of age, when he started out to face the world alone. He went to Lowell, Mass., with the view of working in the woolen factory, but found the town overrun with people hunting work. He had only about twenty-five cents in his pocket, but finally got a chance to work for his board, and sell picture frames at night. At this he was engaged the most of the winter, and cleared about \$10 in all. The next spring he engaged to work for a gardener seven months. The following winter he went to school. In the spring he tried the tanner's trade, but found it quite incompatible for his health, and returned home after working at it about two months. He helped his father through with his summer's work and started to seek his fortune in the West, stopping in the State of Illinois. The first fourteen years he was interested in farming, working rented land the first year and after that his own. In the year 1852 he engaged in the mercantile business in Brooklyn, Lee County, at which he continued till 1856, when he boxed his goods and shipped them West; sold his real estate and other property and came to Floyd County, Ia. The first ten weeks after coming he boarded at the Beelar House. He then bought a log building of Mr. Beelar and kept tavern and store in it for about eighteen months, when he bought out John Wallace, who was also in the dry-goods business. They exchanged places of business, and Mr. Judd kept store here two years. In 1860 he rented another building and commenced lowering his stock on account of his poor health and some discouraging features in trade. This state of affairs having no change, he abandoned the enterprise of merchandising, closed his store and boxed his goods,

and has since nearly exhausted them by selling and using them in his family. Before coming to the State he bought 200 acres sight unseen. This he kept several years and sold it, doubling his money. He owns eighty acres of land in Union Township that requires the most of his attention, in connection with some town property. Though he has had his share of the pioneer's rebuffs, he would still be an active business man were it not for the feeble state of his health, which has been impaired for the last twenty years or more. Politically he has always been a Republican, and has always taken an active part in every enterprise demanding the attention of good citizens. He was the first President elected in the organization of the first temperance society called the Washingtonians. He, in company with three others, formed the society of Good Templars in Marble Rock; has held the office of Justice of the Peace several years and was President of the School Board several years. Dec. 23, 1844, in Lee County, Ill., he and Miss Elizabeth Melugin were united in marriage. She is a native of Tennessee, and is still living, at the age of fifty-four. They have three children—Alice Adelaide is now the wife of W. E. Truax, and resides at Fort Ripley; Eliza Adalette is the wife of Martin E. Bridgman, and resides in Cass County, D. T.; Mary T., single and resides at home. Mr. Judd is a member of the Freemasons. While he was a resident of Illinois he was County Commissioner, Town Treasurer and Constable for many years, and Deputy Sheriff for a term. In early days Mr. Judd attempted to rescue two young men who had been capsized in the Shell Rock River during high water. The fast-rising stream and floating ice made it quite hazardous. The people on shore tied ropes to an Indian canoe and he attempted to reach the young men, who were perched upon a tree many rods off. They were already nearly perished with cold, the day being quite cold; overcoming many difficulties Mr. Judd at last reached the spot, but just before he made his landing his canoe was swept from him and he had to cling to a tree that had lodged near by. Here the three awaited the assistance of those on shore, who, of course, seemed to them to move slow. At last the tree Mr. Judd was on became detached and moved off. He told the young men he must leave them, but to have courage and all would come out well. This was after dusk. Mr. Judd again had a lodging place, one half mile down the river. At last with boats all were rescued, amid considerable excitement.

*Conrad Keister*, deceased, was born in Germany in 1824. He came to America when a small boy. After coming to the United States he lived most of the time in Lake County, Ind. In September, 1861, in Indiana, he married *Mary Waltz*, a native of Germany, born in 1840, and came to the United States when four years old. Mr. Keister and wife came to this county in 1865 and bought forty acres, where she still resides, about two and a quarter miles east of Marble Rock. To this they have since purchased forty, making a farm of eighty acres. Upon this farm Mr. Keister resided till his death, which occurred in the fall of 1876. He was threshing with a side gear machine when the gearing caught his sleeve and front of his shirt, drawing him around against the side of the machine, and finally caught his left arm and tore it from the body at the shoulder. He lived about six hours. He left a family of five children. The oldest is *Andrew*, who carries on the farm; *Mary*, the second child, married *James Clark*, and resides in the Northwest; *Anna* and *Julia* reside at home; *Nelly* died at the age of three years, in 1873. Since the death of Mr. Keister the family have all been kept together and prosperous by the frugality and industry of Mrs. Keister. Since then Mrs. Keister and her son have built a good house and have carried on the farm. To Mrs. Keister's credit we are pleased to say she has helped all through the harvest, and pitched every sheaf for stacking, besides binding quite an amount. In 1878 Mrs. Keister married *John Wulf*, who died in October, 1880, leaving one child, *Ida Wulf*, now three years of age.

*Charles E. Lamb* was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., July 15, 1843. At the age of seven he left the State in company with his father, *Smith Lamb*, and went to Madison County, Wis., where they remained two years. From here Mr. Lamb moved with his family to Bureau County, Ill. Here they remained as a family till 1861, when they moved to Lee County, where *Charles E. Lamb* made his home principally till 1880, when he came to Marble Rock, this county, and purchased a stock of livery from *Philip Shultz*, in which business we find him still engaged and doing well. We say it, not to the discredit of any others, but the truth is he has the finest lot of horses we have seen in the county, and carriages and buggies equal in quality to any first-class livery stock. He is a genial, whole-souled man, and with his live and let live principles has won for himself many friends, not only in Marble Rock, but with the traveling public. Mr. Lamb was mar-

ried in 1870 to Miss Jane E. Shultz, a native of Pennsylvania. They have one child—Everett, now eleven years of age. Politically he is a Republican, and is a member of the Masonic order.

*W. D. Lamb* was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1846; when very small moved with his father, Smith D. Lamb, to Wisconsin, where the family remained four years, and then moved to Illinois. Here W. D. Lamb made his home till 1868, when he came to Marble Rock, Union Township, Floyd County, Ia. The first two years after coming he teamed for J. B. Shepardson, who was then in the dry-goods business. The five years following he ran a lumber yard for him. The following four years he was in company with him in the stock business, and spent one year in buying and selling horses and collecting notes and accounts. In August, 1881, Mr. Lamb became the proprietor of the Beelar House, which position we find him filling with a competency that reflects great credit. It is truly the traveler's home, and the tired and hungry man's favorite resort. In a word, he is a model landlord, and is adding every day to his already large trade. Mr. Lamb was married in 1879, to Miss Ella S. Wallace, a native of Wisconsin. They have one child—William E., a bright boy, eleven years of age. May 2, 1863, Mr. Lamb enlisted in the Seventh Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and served his country over two years, being mustered out at Springfield, Ill., Dec. 5, 1865; was under the command of Major-General Hatch.

*Dennis Manchester* was born in New York State, Nov. 10, 1826. Here he made his home till 1865, when he came to Iowa, landing at Marble Rock the day following the assassination of President Lincoln. He learned the carpenter's trade when a young man and worked at his trade most of the time, though he farmed a couple of years and worked in a wagon shop two years. Many good evidences of his workmanship can be found in Union and Scott townships, while Franklin and Cerro Gordo counties bear evidence of him as a carpenter. Mr. Manchester was married in New York in 1857, on Christmas eve, to Eliza M. Schemerhorn. Their family consists of three living children—Theron G., Essie M. and Dorr.

*J. W. Martin* was born in Bennington County, Vt., in 1841. He was the sixth child of William W. and Mary Martin, both natives of Vermont. Mr. Martin made Vermont his home till he was twenty years of age, when in 1861 he went to Strawberry Point, Clayton County, Ia. Here he remained only about one year, when he went, in company with some others, by land, to Virginia

City, Nev., where he spent three years, most of the time engaged in silver mining. It being the year following the discovery of the mines, of course a hard class of citizens gathered before law and order came on the ground. Upon his return he took the steamer at San Francisco, and returned via Nicaragua route, landing at New York. The following winter he spent with friends in Vermont, and in the spring returned to Clayton County, where he spent another year; at the expiration of this time he went to Nora Springs, and remained about eight months. In the spring of 1870 he moved to Marble Rock, where he has since resided. Upon coming to Marble Rock he engaged in the drug business, and continued it till 1879, when he traded his stock for a farm in Union Township. Has for several years been a partner in a company engaged in the grain business in Marble Rock. Mr. Martin, when a young man, took up the Republican principles inculcated by his father, and has been a life-long supporter of that ticket, and, though not an aspirant for office, always takes an active interest in the live issues of the day. Mr. Martin was the first Mayor of Marble Rock, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace for several years. Mr. Martin was married in January, 1870, in Dubuque, to Miss Gertrude Cragin, a native of Vermont. They have one child—Minnie, now eight years of age.

*W. K. Martin* was born in Quebec, Lower Canada, in 1824; came to the United States when three years of age, locating in Chester County, Pa., where his father purchased a farm. Here he resided till 1844, when he enlisted in the United States army; was first sent out to build Fort Atkinson, Winneshiek County, Ia., (then Iowa Territory). After this event his company went to Corpus Christi, Texas; then went clear through the Mexican campaign, when he received three flesh wounds. After his discharge, Aug. 25, 1849, at Fort Brown, Texas, he went to Allamakee County, Ia. There he bought a small farm, and engaged in farming till he came to Floyd County, which was in 1876. In 1874 he purchased a farm of eighty acres which he gave to his son, C. B. Martin, a teacher in Sioux Falls, D. T. In 1876 he bought 320 acres, where he still resides, on section 33, Union Township. He farms about 225 acres in grain; the balance is in meadow and pasture. Mr. Martin was married in Allamakee County, Ia., in 1850, to Miss Temperance Bowman, a native of Indiana. This was the first marriage ever consummated in Allamakee County. Mr. Martin's family consists of seven children living and two deceased

—Catharine, married Madison Blue, and resides in Leon County, Ia.; C. B. Martin, a teacher in Sioux Falls; Mary J., married James E. Miller, a resident of Union Township; Emma, married Henry Gates, of Union Township, and died in 1881; Cassie A., single, and at home; W. H., single, and in the livery business in Sioux Falls; T. B. and J. F., single, and at home; Carolina, died at the age of ten, in Union Township. Mr. Martin and his wife have been members of the United Brethren church for the past twenty-five years. Mr. Martin certainly has had an eventful career, passing through what but few ever live to see. Has been a pioneer all his life. Politically, he is a Republican. He wanted to enlist in the late Rebellion, but was rejected on account of his wounds. Had a commission from Adjutant-General Baker, and raised and organized and sent to the field three companies, drilling them three months.

*George Maxson* was born in Harrison County, W. Va., near Clarksburg, Nov. 20, 1811. He was a son of George and Elizabeth Maxson. At about the age of twenty-two Mr. Maxson left that State and moved to Ohio; spent about twenty-five years in Allen County, that State, residing in the State about thirty years altogether. In the year 1868 he became a citizen of Floyd County, purchasing at the same time the farm of 160 acres, where he still resides, on section 11, Union Township, two and one-half miles northeast of Marble Rock; also 160 acres in section 14, where his son John F. resides, and fifty-four acres in St. Charles Township. This land he still owns except the fifty-four he sold, and has sold to his sons 160 acres, leaving 160 acres of a homestead. Mr. Maxson was married in Allen County, Ohio, in 1842, to Rachel Harbut, a native of Harrison County, W. Va. They have a family of seven children living, four sons and three daughters—Martha, married S. K. Sheaffer, and resides in Union Township; Sarah, John T., George Nelson, Charles H., Silas and Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Maxson and the whole family, are members of the regular Baptist church. This is a circumstance we have not met before in the county, but it is certainly worthy of imitation of other families, and reflects great credit upon the parents for the good example taught the children. Politically Mr. Maxson and his sons are all Republicans and substantial Prohibitionists, and temperance men. Mr. Maxson taught school twenty-five terms in Ohio, and one term in School District No. 2, Union Township, the second winter after coming to this county.



*John Mills* was born in New Jersey, in 1825. At the age of seventeen he moved with his father, John Mills, Sr., to Pennsylvania, where he made a stay of about seven years. From there he came to Floyd County, Iowa, in 1851. He took a claim of 300 acres where he still resides, one mile and a half west of Marble Rock. He owns 400 acres of Floyd County's best land. Has his farm all under the best of improvements and cultivation; it is all fenced and spaced into fields with board and wire fencing. About the year 1864 he built himself a fine barn. In the year 1875 he built the best house in the township, if not in the county; it is 30 x 36, two stories high, ten feet between floors, containing ten fine large rooms. He has not neglected the inside of his house, as is sometimes the case, but has it furnished entire with choice furniture. His surroundings are ornamented and beautified with shade trees and ornamental shrubs, so that it presents one of the finest scenes to the passer-by that can be met with in a month's travel. When we take into consideration the beautiful location of the land, the number of acres and quality of soil, and pleasant residence, we fearlessly proclaim it one of the grandest properties in all the Northwest. Mr. Mills crops yearly about 180 acres himself, besides what he rents out. In addition to his extensive farming, he deals quite extensively in hogs and sheep. Mr. Mills was married in Butler County, Feb. 19, 1857, to Miss Eliza Phillips, a native of Ohio, but a resident of Iowa. They have a family of seven children living—Patience, married Samuel C. Kide, and resides in Scott Township; Katie, U. S. Grant, Tilla E., Truman A., Asa and Mamie.

*Moore & Paddleford.*—The firm of Moore & Paddleford was organized Sept. 1, 1878. Mr. William Moore and J. F. Paddleford purchased of Shepardson Brothers the yard and lumber, which amounted to about 250,000 feet of lumber, and 300,000 shingles, and 100,000 of lath. They have found the business rather pleasant and tolerably lucrative. They sell about 600 car loads a year, 10,000 feet to the car, besides about from 3,000 to 5,000 shingles, and about 400,000 lath, doing a business of about \$40,000 a year. Mr. Paddleford, the junior partner of the firm, was born in Dodge County, Wis., in 1855. In 1865 he came to Floyd County with his father, Charles Paddleford, who was by avocation a farmer, and made his home at Nora Springs four years, when he moved to his farm in Union Township and remained till his death, which occurred in 1874. From this event till the date of his partnership

with Mr. Moore, J. F. Paddleford was engaged in carrying on the farm and settling up his father's estate. On the 4th day of June, 1878, Mr. J. F. Paddleford met with an accident that is not only a life-long sadness, but a harrowing thought to him still, as his mind reverts to it. He was placing a strap upon a fast-running wheel, in a grain elevator, when his right hand was caught by a projecting set screw and wound round the shaft backward, crushing the bones of the hand and arm as it went. When rescued his right arm was severed from his body almost up to the elbow. Similar accidents have almost universally discouraged young men of his age, who have drifted, as it were, out to sea. But he has manfully made the best of all circumstances and schooled himself to write with his left hand, having already a good business education, and we find him to-day among the first business men of Marble Rock.

*W. M. Moore* was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Aug. 11, 1830. He was a son of Wm. and Catharine Moore. At the age of twenty-five he went to Dodge County, Wis., where he engaged in the milling business, and remained about twelve years, running a saw and grist mill about ten years of the time. In the year 1867 he became a citizen of Floyd County, locating in Nora Springs, where, in company with Charles Paddleford, he bought the town site of Nora Springs, and erected the grist mill which is still extant and in good order. The year following they built a double store, and rented it to parties who engaged in the mercantile business. Prior to the erection of these buildings the town contained only three or four residences, but after this event the town began to grow rapidly, and soon became a lively village, the railroad soon passing through the place. In this project Messrs. Moore & Paddleford were deeply interested, being among the chief donators to the county. In 1869 they sold the mill, and Mr. Moore moved to Marble Rock, where we find him a citizen at this writing. The first four years in Marble Rock were spent by him in the mercantile business. The three years following were spent at Moose Lake, Minn., in the manufacture of shingles. At the expiration of this time he returned to Marble Rock and engaged in the lumber business, in company with Fredric Paddleford, a son of the Mr. Paddleford with whom he was in partnership in Nora Springs. An account of their business will be found in this work. In connection with the lumber business, Mr. Moore formerly owned 1,000 acres in Floyd County, but has sold the most of it, reserving about

160 acres adjoining the town of Marble Rock. He owns a beautiful town property. He has for the past four or five years been interested in the elevator company. Mr. Moore is a man of large business experience, and his business career has had a decided effect upon the town of Marble Rock, as well as the county. He has been one of the drive wheels of the business community. He was always ready to invest his money wherever it promised a good investment for the advancement of the town and community. In a word, we may say Mr. Moore deserves the credit of being the prime mover in the best interests of the pleasant village of Marble Rock, and as he bids the town good-bye, and takes up his abode in California his loss will be deeply felt by his fellow townsmen, and his labors be fully appreciated by those who remain behind. Mr. Moore was married in New York State, in 1851, to Christine Harroun, a native of New York State. She died in 1854, leaving no family. He married his second wife, Cynthia Sweet, in 1857. They have only one child—Charles, now twenty years of age. He has been a life-long Republican and is a sound Prohibitionist.

*A. Moore* was born in Oswego County, N. Y., in 1836. About the year 1838 his parents moved to Du Page County, Ill., where they remained till their death. At about the age of twelve Mr. Moore commenced to do for himself, his parents both being dead. When about nineteen years of age he went to Nebraska in company with Ralph Mathews, where they took up a claim, which they soon after released and returned to Iowa, locating in Rockford in 1856. In 1857 he clerked in a store for a Mr. Mathews of that place, and worked some on his farm. In 1858 he purchased eighty acres in Rockford Township, which he afterward farmed for about four years, when he came to Marble Rock and engaged in the mercantile business, which he followed two years, when he took J. B. Shepardson in as a partner. The style of the firm remained Moore & Shepardson for two years, when Mr. Moore bought his partner's interest, and has since been conducting the business alone. Besides the store business he owns four cultivated farms, consisting in all of 320 acres, which he superintends, though worked by renters. He has recently sold eighty acres, breaking a nice block of 400 acres. For twelve years he was Postmaster, and has held several township offices, though he has never aspired to office, having always a good business of his own to look after. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Freemasons. He was married in Delaware County, Iowa, to Miss Margret Baldan, a native of

Indiana. They have had eight children, seven living—Jennie E., Ralph Mathews (deceased), Hattie E., Oscar E., Frank B., Fred I. and Henry Arthur. Mr. Moore has one of the grandest homes in the State. They have not neglected the inside of the house through extravagant outside improvements, but Mrs. Moore, with her natural ability as an artist, has adorned the walls and beautified their home.

*Henry Neel* was born in 1821, in Greene County, Pa., on the Monongahela River. Here he lived till he was about thirteen years of age, when he moved with his father, Thomas Neel, to Knox County, Ohio, in 1834. Here he remained till 1849, when he moved to Lee County, Ill., and remained there till the spring of 1882, when he became a citizen of Floyd County, moving upon the farm he purchased of Mr. Bucklin, the old Baltimore farm, March 13. Mr. Neel was married in 1845 to Margaret Austin, a native of England, but a resident of Illinois, where her father still resides, at the advanced age of eighty-three. Mr. Neel's family consists of eight living children, two died when nearly man and woman grown—Mary Jane, now the wife of Phil. Shultz, and a resident of Union Township; Martha Ellen, married William Daers, and lives in Saline County, Neb.; Sarah Ann, married Frank Bemar, and resides in Adams County, this State; Matilda Nora, married Robert Barr, and resides also in Saline County, Neb.; Adel, married James Barr, a resident of Union Township; John Henry, Margaret Elizabeth and Louella are single and reside at home. Mr. Neel has recently been introduced as a citizen of our county, but we welcome him heartily, and feel already an acquaintance through his representatives, his children, married and scattered through the West and in this county. Mr. Neel has been a pioneer all his life. In Ohio log huts greeted him, and many were extant at his departure. In Illinois the broad wild prairie with wide-stretched arms offered him a home. And now in this county, while in its infancy as it were, we find him joined hands and interests with those who in future years shall be known and read of as the strong-handed men of early days.

*Mathias Nixt* was born in Germany in 1831. He was a son of Paul and Susan Nixt, both born in Germany. At about the age of twenty-seven Mathias Nixt came to America, locating in Dubuque, Ia., where he spent about seven years; a part of the time he was in Clayton County. In 1865 he became a citizen of Floyd County. The first two years he rented land in Pleasant Grove Township.

In 1864 he and his brother John bought 160 acres on section 1, Union Township. Upon this he moved in 1867, dividing it at about the same date. He built a good house and barn, and has changed the farm from raw prairie to a well-cultivated place. To this first purchase he has added different purchases, making in all 240 acres of Floyd County's best land. He has by his own exertions made his own property. He has wrung from the hard hand of toil an independence that places him among Floyd County's well-to-do and sound farmers. He was married in 1831 to Margaret Spelis, a native of Germany. They have five children—Anna, John, George, Katie and Maggie, all of whom are at home, except Maggie, who lives with his brother John. Mr. Nixt lost his wife in 1871, and married Terrace Adolph in 1875. They have a family of five children—Lena, Joseph, Simon, Nicholas and Mathias.

*James O'Hair* was born in Dumfries, Scotland, Feb. 11, 1836. When a mere child he moved with his father, John O'Hair to Glasgow, where the family remained till 1849, when they came to America, spending the first four months in New York City. From there they went to Utica, N. Y., where John O'Hair went into the dry-goods business, and James O'Hair clerked for him about two years. In the fall of 1851 they moved to Michigan, and bought a farm, where they lived about two years. At the expiration of this time the family again moved, this time to Illinois, near Rockford, where they bought a farm, and made that their home only about two years, when James O'Hair and his father came to Iowa, and bought the Eaton farm in St. Charles Township, this county, now owned by A. W. Cook. Here the family made their home till 1861, when they moved to Charles City. Here James O'Hair commenced to do for himself by engaging in the mercantile business, which avocation he pursued about five years, when he sold out and engaged in the saloon business, at which he continued about two years in Charles City, where his family still reside. In 1871 Mr. O'Hair opened a saloon in Marble Rock, where he is still in business. Mr. O'Hair was married in June, 1857, to Miss Elizabeth Hill, of Rockford, Ill. They have a family of seven children living—Belle, a school-teacher; James, Jr., also a school-teacher; Mary Etta; Charles, a barber in Charles City; Anna, Lizzie and George. The younger children and Mary Etta are attending school. Mr. O'Hair believes firmly in education, and has furnished his family with the same, so that they are abundantly able to take care of themselves as soon as grown up. Politically Mr.

O'Hair is a Democrat, and takes a live interest in the politics of the day. His influence is strong, but not prevailing in a country so thickly settled with members of the opposite party.

A. *Palmateer* was born in Andes, Delaware County, N. Y., Dec. 19, 1817. Here he made his home till he was about thirty-eight years of age, principally engaged in farming. Those were early days even in New York, and his school advantages were very much limited, though those who are acquainted with Mr. Palmateer would never think but he was well educated. But unlike many men, he has taken advantage of every opportunity to inform himself, and is to-day in advance of many who started out with fine opportunities. While in New York State he worked in a saw-mill quite a good deal, which required considerable writing and figuring. This gave him quite an opportunity in the way of a business education. From New York State he moved to Buffalo Township, Ogle County, Ill., where he resided about seventeen years. From there he came to Iowa and became a citizen of Floyd County in 1871. On the 15th day of May, the same year, he bought the fine farm of 160 acres where he still resides, about two miles northwest of the pleasant village of Greene, in Butler County. Upon this farm he has since lived, and has indeed a pleasant home. Mr. Palmateer was married in Delaware County, N. Y., Dec. 1, 1842, to Miss Henrietta McKeel. Their family consists of nine children, four sons and five daughters, all still living—Electa married O. C. Roberts and resides in Butler County, near Greene; Emeline married Jacob Potter, and resides in Butler County, also near Greene; Horace is married, and resides in Kansas; Salvenus, married and resides in Todd County, Minn.; Ransom is married, and resides in Butler County, east of Greene; Sarah is the wife of Leet Buts, who is farming Mr. Palmateer's place on shares; Eva married Lewis Hart and resides in Butler County, about a mile and a half southwest of Greene; Jesse and Mary, the two youngest children, are both single and at home. Politically he is a sound-headed, and life-long Jackson Democrat. Is morally opposed to all secret societies. Of Mr. Palmateer we wish to speak, as he is known to be a man of solid worth and substantial principles; has broad and clear views upon all live issues of the day, and is not afraid to advance and defend them. He was what might be called a pioneer all his life, beginning in New York, through seventeen years in Illinois, and the remainder in Iowa.

*John B. Pooley*, an Englishman, was born in Davenport, Devonshire, England, Jan. 23, 1854; his parents' names were John and Mary (Blake) Pooley. His early life was that in common with all English working lads, and when old enough, longings for a new and free country, where a poor man has equal rights with a rich. And so, in 1870, when in his seventeenth year, he came to the United States, and staid for eight years in Rockford, Ill.; he moved to Floyd County in 1878, to this present locality. He married a daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth J. Fiddick, her son marrying his sister, Rebecca Pooley, and all living on adjoining farms. A pleasant life must be theirs. Mr. Pooley is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Greene. He is cropping an average of corn, oats and tame grass, and we see no reason why Mr. Pooley may not regard his emigration in the light of a wise and profitable movement upon his part.

*E. A. Rosenkrans* was born in Luzerne County, Pa., in 1846. When about seven years of age he moved with his father, Abram Rosenkrans, to Illinois, where E. A. made his home, spending the most of his time as a dry-goods clerk. In the spring of 1869 he became a citizen of Floyd County, locating in Marble Rock, where he has since resided. In the fall of 1870 he formed a partnership with J. W. Darland in the dry-goods business. They continued in business eighteen months, when Mr. Rosenkrans sold his interest in the stock to his partner and bought a stock of goods from William Moore, and was alone in the business about two years, when he formed a co-partnership with his father, who had just come from Illinois; this partnership still exists, under the firm name of E. A. Rosenkrans & Co. They keep a general store, complete in all departments. Mr. E. A. Rosenkrans was married July 12, 1870, to Miss Frankie Bissell, a native of Ohio; came to Iowa at an early date. They have two children—Harry and Gracie. Politically he is a Republican. Though not an aspirant for office, he has had to serve as Town Recorder after the incorporation of the village of Marble Rock, and is at present Street Commissioner. Is a member of the order of Freemasons.

*N. Rosenkrans* was born in Pennsylvania in 1843. When about twelve years of age he moved from that State to Illinois with his father, Abram Rosenkrans. Here N. Rosenkrans made his home till 1869, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., locating in Marble Rock. He purchased, in Union Township, 160 acres of land. Of this he sold eighty acres, and bought afterward forty acres, so

that he now owns a farm of 120 acres, which he farmed till the year 1881, when he rented it and formed a partnership with Samuel Rex in the butcher and meat-market business, in which avocation we find them still engaged. Mr. Rosenkrans was married in Floyd County in 1870 to Miss Emeline Comstock, a native of New York State. They have no family of their own, but have an adopted daughter, Hattie, who is now eighteen years of age and has made her home with them for the past ten years.

*S. Rex* was born in Summit County, O., in 1834; made his home with his father, Rudolph Rex, till he was twenty-one years of age, when he came to Floyd County, Ia., in the fall of 1856. He came into possession of 160 acres of land through the gift of his father, who had purchased, in 1856, 1,200 acres in Union Township, this county. This he exchanged for 115 acres near Marble Rock, which he still owns and is farming. The first year after coming to this county he worked for his father; the next twenty years he was either a township or county officer, holding the positions of Constable and Deputy Sheriff. During this time he managed his farm and carried on quite a stroke of agriculture through kind help. In 1858 he purchased a half interest in a steam saw-mill in Marble Rock, and ran it two years, when he sold out, and turned his attention principally to farming, till the railroad came through, when he bought and shipped stock two years. Since then, and, in fact, we may say since 1857, he has been engaged in farming, but has coupled with it various branches of business. In November, 1881, he formed a partnership with N. Rosenkrans in a meat market, in which business they are still successfully engaged. Mr. Rex was married in Marble Rock, October, 1859, to Miss Mary J. Ackley, a native of New York State. She is a daughter of Mr. Ackley, who came to this county in an early day. Their family consists of nine children, four sons and five daughters. Politically Mr. Rex has been a Republican since his first vote, which was for John C. Fremont, in favor of temperance and approved the Amendment.

*S. K. Shafer* was born in Union County, O., in 1835. He was a son of Lemmiel and Jane (Kearney) Shafer. At about the age of sixteen he left the State of Ohio and went to Illinois, where he remained five years engaged in farming part of the time, and a while there was engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages, which trade he learned in that State. From Illinois he went to Missouri where he purchased a farm and made his home thirteen



years. From thence came to Iowa, locating in Floyd County, purchasing the farm of 160 acres where he still resides, in Union Township, on section 23. Upon this farm he has made many improvements. He has turned it from a wild prairie to a pleasant home and fine farm. Built himself a fine house and has beautified his surroundings so that he has one of the finest homes in the Northwest. Mr. Shafer has not only been what might be called a life-long pioneer, but has had his experience with the people of Missouri at the breaking out of the war. For a time they did not dare say their souls were their own, but finally the appearance of soldiers quieted matters to some extent, though fighting bushwhackers was a matter of daily occurrence. He has also had his experience on the plains with the red skins; was with one of Kit Carson's comrades for awhile. For about eight months Mr. Shafer was one of the Missouri home guards, one of the most dangerous positions a man was ever called upon to fill. He enlisted Aug. 12, 1862, in Company D, Twenty-seventh Missouri Volunteer Infantry; served his country about eight months, when he was taken sick and sent to the hospital and soon afterward discharged on account of disability. Mr. Shafer was married Jan. 28, 1864, to Miss Clementine Kendell, a native of Indiana. She died in 1876, leaving four children—John I., A. J., Robert A. and Sarah C., all residing at home. Mr. Shafer married his second wife in 1878. Her name was Martha Maxon, a native of Ohio. They have two children Helen R., and William H. Mr. Shafer has about all his life been a member of the United Brethren church. His first wife was a member of the same church. His present wife is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Shafer is a member of the order of Odd Fellows. His first vote was for James Buchanan, but has since voted the straight Republican ticket. He was a warm friend and earnest supporter of the author of this work.

*J. B. Shepardson* was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., Dec. 4, 1830. When about fourteen years of age he moved with his father, William Shepardson, to De Kalb County, Ill., where he resided till his death, which occurred July 24, 1882. J. B. Shepardson called Illinois his home for about eighteen years, though he spent three or four years in the lumber business in Wisconsin; while in Illinois he turned his attention principally to farming. For the past twenty-four years he has been identified with the interests of Floyd County, though he did not move into the county till 1864. The two years previous he spent in Butler County, six

miles south of Marble Rock, where he moved in 1864, and is still residing. The first ten years in this place were spent in no regular line of business, though he to some extent engaged in several, and employed most of his time at something. He kept store and hotel and bought and sold lands, and might be considered a frontier speculator. In 1873 he opened the Marble Rock Bank, which he is still running very successfully. He is also extensively interested in the grain business. The firm of J. B. Shepardson & Co. have been controlling the grain business of Marble Rock for the past three years. They handle some years as high as \$300,000 worth of grain. In addition to Mr. Shepardson's businesses of various characters, he owns about 3,000 acres of improved land that requires considerable attention. The land is situated in Cerro Gordo, Butler and Floyd counties. He also owns a grist-mill on Shell Rock River. Mr. Shepardson was married in Wisconsin, July 22, 1860, to Miss Julia D. Bucklen, a native of New York State. Their family consists of two children—Helen E. and William, ages twelve and ten respectively. Mr. Shepardson has for the past twenty-five years been a member of the order of Freemasons. Is a sound Republican and a Prohibitionist. Though not an aspiring politician, he has held many years different offices of trust; was a member of the County Board of Supervisors for about eight years; Justice of the Peace about four years; Postmaster and Supervisor, represented the county in 1876–1877, and is the present Mayor of the village of Marble Rock. It is with a great deal of frankness that we speak of Mr. Shepardson as a philanthropist and public benefactor. He is the friend of the poor man, and always stands ready to help an honest man and one who is willing to help himself. Mr. Shepardson has hosts of friends and but few enemies. Those who might be termed his enemies are invariably of that class who, in dealings with him, have either imposed upon the rules of decency in business, or have maliciously attempted to take advantage of the leniency extended to them, through the good heartedness of Mr. Shepardson.

*Isaac Shultz* was born in Columbia County, Pa., Sept. 5, 1806. He is the youngest son of Daniel and Elizabeth Shultz, both natives of New Jersey. Mr. Isaac Shultz made Pennsylvania his home for about fifty-two years, spending his time upon a farm. In that State he married and reared his family. In the year 1858 he moved with his family to Illinois, where they remained about

twelve years. In 1870 he and his family came to Iowa, locating in Floyd County, where we find them at this writing. In 1872 Mr. Shultz and Miss Mary Margaret Stackhouse were united in marriage. She died in 1876, in this county. Mr. Shultz's family consisted of nine children, only four of whom are still living—Paxton, the oldest son, is now fifty-five years of age, has a family of five children and resides near Rockford; James, the second son died in the army in 1863, at the age of twenty-four years; Thomas died in 1859, at the age of thirty years; George, now forty-one years of age and resides about three miles southwest of Marble Rock, is a farmer and has a family of three children; Philip is thirty-eight years of age, has a farm in Union Township, this county, and has a family of four children; Elizabeth, the oldest daughter, died in 1857, at about the age of twenty-seven (she was the wife of Hiram Shultz; left two children who are now residing in Pennsylvania); Jane died in Illinois in 1864, at about the age of thirty-one (she was the wife of Jefferson Malugin; left one child); Adaline died in this county in 1877, in the month of October, at the age of forty-one (she was the wife of John Malugin and left a family of seven children); Mary Margaret is now the wife of Daniel Miller, and resides in Illinois (she is about thirty-six years of age. They have seven children.) Mr. Isaac Shultz married his second wife (Nancy Davis). Aug. 30, 1877. Mr. Shultz resides upon his farm of 147 acres, two miles south of Marble Rock, which he purchased in 1870. Mr. Shultz is a member of the United Brethren church, and is a Republican. He sent three sons to the army—George, James and Phillip, who enlisted at the opening of the war and fought like heroes and staid their time like patriots. George had the ends of three fingers cut off with a rifle-ball. Philip went before he was of age, being only sixteen years of age. Mr. Shultz carried on his farm alone and let his boys go and fight for the country.

*Samuel Sours* was born in Summit County, O., Jan. 17, 1836, where he made his home till he was nearly twenty-one years of age, when he came to Iowa, it being in the last days of 1856. He settled in Marble Rock, Union Township, this county, and turned his attention to improving and working a farm of eighty acres they owned across the creek. Mr. Sours taught school the first winter he was in Iowa, it being the second school taught in the township. He turned his attention to farming principally till the year 1864, when, in February, he enlisted in Company B, Seventh Iowa Vol-

but adopted a girl in 1878. Her name is Minnie, now seven years of age. Politically he is a Republican.

*Henry Wadey* was born in Sussex, England, near Brighton, May 19, 1814, a son of Thomas and Ann Wadey. The first thirty-eight years of his life was spent in that country. After he grew up to manhood he engaged in the carpenter business, till he came to the United States, which was in the year 1852. He located first in Belvidere, Ill., for two years. In 1854 he came to Floyd County, and settled upon the farm where he still resides, on section 31, northwest corner of the township. He built a log cabin upon this, and turned it from a raw prairie to one of the good farms of Floyd County. He formerly owned 160 acres, but has sold all but twenty-eight acres, which he reserves as a homestead, and a pleasant home it is. In 1862 he built a fine stone house, and has his surroundings beautified with nicely arranged trees, etc. Mr. Wadey was married in Brighton, England, in 1842, to Adda Woolven, daughter of William and Maria Woolven. Mrs. Woolven died in England many years ago, and Mr. Woolven accompanied Mr. Wadey and wife to this country, and died about three years afterward. Mr. Wadey has no family. Of Mr. Wadey we are pleased to say he is not only first among the people of the county in point of settlement but in point of citizenship. He has been a life-long Republican.

*Wm. Wagnor* was born in Centre County, Pa., in 1835. He was a son of Wm. and Julia Wagnor. He resided in Pennsylvania till the spring of 1854, when he went to Illinois, where he resided till the spring of 1856, at which date he came to Floyd County, Ia., locating in Marble Rock, where he spent about six years working at the carpenter's trade and running the steam saw-mill most of the time. After leaving Marble Rock he rented land south of Marble Rock. In the spring of 1862 he bought thirty acres which joined eighty acres Mrs. Wagner received through the will of her father. Upon this land they still reside, about three quarters of a mile southwest of Marble Rock. To this first purchase Mr. Wagner has added some land, making in all 113½ acres. He was married in the fall of 1857 to Elizabeth Rex. They have six children—Martin resides in Minnesota and Ralph is in Scott Township; Lilly, Ona, Lydia and Ida. Mr. Wagnor has always voted the Republican ticket.

*John Wallace* was born in Ireland in 1818, though not of that nationality by descent. A story related of his grandfather's career,

illustrating the circumstances by which his birth is marked in that country, is well worthy of space here, and will at the same time show the noble stock from which Mr. Wallace sprang: In 1770 his grandfather, William Wallace, was known as a prominent man in Scotland, whose opinions were quite adverse to the English Government. In company with many others he had to flee from that country to the New England colonies of America. Here he became an active spirit among the Pilgrims, and under the command of General Washington he held the office of Major. His prominence in Scotland and his high position in this country made him quite a conspicuous enemy to the English Government, and he was branded as a *rebel* of the same, and his life was fiercely sought by his enemies on that account. His property (which was quite large) was confiscated, and his only son, John Wallace, was hunted like a tiger in the jungles. But the son was carefully secreted by a maiden aunt, who took him to Ireland, where he grew up and married a Highland Scotch woman. Of this union was born John Wallace, the subject of this sketch, whose life can be almost traced to Scotland instead of Ireland, from the fact that when a mere infant his parents moved to that country. When about twelve years of age, John Wallace, Jr., came to the United States in company with some elder brothers, and spent the first three years in Suffield, Hartford County, Conn., where he met some of the grandest people, he says, that it has ever been his pleasure to meet. At the expiration of this time he worked a year in a carriage shop in Newark, N. J. Finding the work too heavy for his strength he went to New York City and clerked in a general grocery store about one year. In 1840 he went to Roscoe, Winnebago County, Ill., and remained one year; then worked at his trade in Rockford and Beloit about two years, at the end of which time he settled in Beloit, which place he made his home about eleven years. During this time he was very prosperous, but through the treachery of a friend lost about \$2,000, it being about \$300 more than he was worth. In 1856 he came to Floyd County, Ia., with about \$5,000, which he had afterward accumulated. At this date he purchased, in Union, 120 acres which he, two years afterward, sold at an advance of over \$1,000. In those days he was one of the heaviest tax-payers of the county. But while he had twice proved himself wonderfully efficient as a money-maker, he, with many others, has suffered considerable loss in land on the deceptive fluctuations of immigration and prices, and the

uncertain tread of civilization. In Boone County, Ill., Mr. Wallace was married, Nov. 1, 1843, to Miss Electa A. Stevens, a native of Pennsylvania, and sister of Mrs. Elisha Wilcox and Charles Stevens, both of this county. Mrs. Wallace was the mother of twelve children, nine of whom are living, five sons and four daughters—Mary Edna, now the wife of C. D. Clark; Electa A., married Hezekiah Garber; Ella Sophia, wife of W. D. Lamb, the present popular proprietor of the Beelar House; Oren W., John P. W., Eva E., Garrett S., Charles S. and Asaph M. Of this large family, all are residents of Floyd County except Eva E., who is attending school in Matherton, Mich. Mrs. Wallace died Sept. 10, 1876; she was one of the best women God ever gave to the sons of men. Mr. Wallace married his second wife, Catharine Darland, Oct. 14, 1877. Politically he is a Republican of the Abolition stock. He was appointed Postmaster under the administration of Pierce; was elected County Coroner in 1862, and Justice of the Peace in 1872.

*R. F. Wilke* was born in Germany in 1849, and came to America with his parents in 1856. They located in Madison, Wis., where R. F. Wilke made his home till the year 1870, when he went to Charles City, this county, and worked as a journeyman at the harness trade for eight months. May 26, 1871, he became a citizen of Marble Rock, where he engaged in the harness business on his own capital, continuing in the same about eleven years. In 1876 he added to his harness trade a boot and shoe business, placing each branch on opposite sides of the store. In this form he carried on business till the spring of 1882, when he sold the harness department to Mr. J. Wiloth, who is now occupying a part of the store with him. The sales of this stock last year amounted to about \$10,000, and since Mr. Wilke has turned his attention to boots and shoes alone he has even surpassed that amount of sales. This year it will not run far from \$12,000. His stock is clean and complete. He carries about thirty-five different grades of men's boots, ten of boys', and over eighty different styles of ladies' shoes, besides an endless variety of youths' and children's boots and shoes. Mr. Wilke was married in Marble Rock in 1874 to Miss Minnie Grant, a native of Iowa. They have two children—William G. and Clyde, ages four years and three months, respectively. Mr. Wilke is a member of the I. O. O. F. In 1871 he commenced with a capital of \$500, and to-day \$10,000 will hardly cover his stock and capital.

*James Welton* was born in Canada in the year 1846. Here he made his home till 1869, when he became a citizen of Floyd County, by locating in Charles City. While in Canada he turned his attention to farming. Before coming to this county Mr. Welton had struck rock bottom, having only \$2 in his pocket. He spent the first year in Charles City, working at what jobs might turn up. The year following he rented a farm. In the month of September, 1871, he moved to Marble Rock, where he has since resided, turning his attention to farming some, but might be more properly considered a horseman than a farmer. When any one wants a good horse among his acquaintances he wants him to buy it; and if a horse is for sale they go to him also. He has dealt in horses more or less ever since coming to Marble Rock, and of late years has been buying and shipping. Last spring he took a car-load to Dakota. In 1873 he moved to a property of his own, west of town. We find him very pleasantly and comfortably situated; his home is in a natural grove that affords cool breezes in the summer and warmth in the winter. Mr. Welton was married in Canada, Feb. 20, 1867, to Miss Samantha McDonell, a native of Canada. They have one child—Anna Maud, now fourteen years of age.

*C. E. Wood* was born in Whitehall, Washington County, N. Y., Nov. 21, 1833. Here he made his home till he was twenty-one years of age. In the meantime he learned the harness maker and trimmer's trade. In 1854 he went to De Kalb County, Ill., where he engaged in farming, remaining nearly six years. At the expiration of this time he became a citizen of this county, locating in Union Township, where he has since resided. He farmed for about eleven years, when he engaged as clerk with Mr. Allen Moore, who then had the postoffice. Being with Mr. Moore in all about a year, he became familiar with the postoffice business and handling the mail, etc. The year 1873 he spent in the employ of Mr. Wilke in the harness-making business. On the 20th of July, 1874, he took charge of the Marble Rock postoffice as deputy, and in this capacity remained about three years, when, in January, 1878, he was appointed Postmaster. Mr. Wood has been identified with this postoffice longer than any other man. His ability as an accurate business man and his attentiveness to his duties make him, as it were, an indispensable man to the town and office. Mr. Wood was married to his first wife, Martha Baily, in Aurora, Ill., in 1864. She died in Marble Rock in 1876, leaving one child—Grant C., who is now about eighteen years of

age. Mr. Wood married his second wife, Mary Elliott, July 23, 1879, in Cedar Falls. He is a member of the order of Freemasons and formerly took an active part as a member of the Sons of Temperance in New York State, also in the Society of Good Templars in this State. Politically Mr. Wood is a Republican, and always has taken an active part in politics, though never an aspirant for office; he has held the position of Township Collector three years, and Township Clerk for the past eight years, which he occupies still; is also Assessor of the village of Marble Rock.

*George Worsfield*, born in England in 1831, was a son of John and Frances (Bonfield) Worsfield. When about twenty-one years of age he came to America, spending the first two years in Buffalo, N. Y., working at harness-making. The following six months he sold goods on the road, in the western part of New York. At this date he went to Belvidere Ill., where he remained two months when he joined his old friend, Henry Wadey, and came to Floyd County, Ia. His first purchase was in 1861, being the farm where he still resides, situated in the northwest corner of Union Township, on section 31. Here he built a small house which served as his home till 1873, when he built himself a very fine house. His home is pleasantly located, being about three and one-half miles from Marble Rock, and five and one-half from Rockford, and within a few rods of the railroad, where the daily passing trains relieve the monotony of country life. Mr. Worsfield has been unable, on account of his health a few years past, to carry on his farm, and has let it out on shares. He was married in 1869 to Miss Nancy Baltimore, daughter of A. Baltimore, an interesting sketch of whose life appears in this work. They have no family. Mrs. Worsfield died in 1878. He taught the first school in Marble Rock; made the first harness ever made in Floyd County, and took the first in the county on single and double harness, being a diploma, given by the Floyd County Agricultural Society, on each award, at its second annual meeting, Sept. 19, 20, 1860. He worked at the harness trade in England prior to coming to this country. He made a visit to England of about three months, four years ago. Politically he is a Republican and Prohibitionist. Has held the office of Township Trustee several terms, besides doing his part as School Director and Road Supervisor.

*Samuel Yerrick*, deceased, was born in Pennsylvania in 1813. At about the age of seventeen he went to Ohio, where he lived till about 1845, when he moved to Illinois, where they made their home about



eleven years, at the expiration of which time they came to Iowa, locating in Union Township, this county, it being the year 1856. Purchased the year previous the farm of 160 acres, where his family still resides, about two and one-half miles southeast of Marble Rock, on the Nashua Road. In 1839 Mr. Yerrick and Miss Ladisa Feller, a native of Pennsylvania, being born there Aug. 11, 1819, were married. Mr. Yerrick died Sept. 17, 1861, leaving a family of eight children—Oliver, married and is a farmer of Floyd County; Amelia is the wife of William Bedell, who is one of Floyd County's farmers; Mary, married William Comstock, residents of Kansas; Eliza, married Isaac Chamberlain, resident of Union Township; Sophia married Hiram Bailey, and resides in Howard County, Ia.; Adam, single and carries on the home farm; Lavina, married Frederic Larcher and resides in Floyd County; Melva, single and at home. Mrs. Yerrick is a member of the Methodist church.













